潮漫画文庫

燕京伶人抄
ペキンれいじんしょう
エンチンリンレンチャオ

皇なつき
すめらぎ

潮出版社

NOTES:
THE TITLE OF THIS SERIES
HAS TWO PRONUNCIATIONS.
ONE IS IN JAPANESE,
THE OTHER IS IN CHINESE.

"BEKIN REIJIN SHOU" IN JAPANESE
"YANJING LINREN CHAO" IN CHINESE

THE LITERAL TRANSLATION
TO ENGLISH IS
"THE TRANSCRIPTION OF
YANJING PERFORMING ARTISTS"

燕京伶人抄

ベキンれいじんしょう

エンチンリンレンチャオ

皇なつき

潮漫画文庫

TO RESPECT THE AUTHOR'S
PREFERENCE, WE USE THE CHINESE
TITLE OF THIS BOOK AS
"YANJING LINREN CHAO".
ALL HONORIFICS, TERMINOLOGY
OF PEKING OPERA, AND
SOME COMMONLY USED
CHINESE WORDS IN THE BOOK
WILL BE INTRODUCED IN MANDARIN
OR, IN SOME PLACES, BEIJINGER'S
SPECIFIC ACCENTS. WE BELIEVE THIS
IS ALSO THE AUTHOR'S WISH AS
SHE INTRODUCED MANY
CHINESE WORDS TO JAPANESE
READERS THROUGH OUT
THE BOOK.

Yanjing Linren Chao

燕京伶人抄

(Transcriptions of
Yanjing Performing Artists)

A Lifay — not Scanlator

Sumeragi Natsuki

YANJING LINREN CHAO

The Transcription of Yanjing Performing Artists

Sumeragi Natsuki

~* Contents *~

Wildly Danang Phoenix	5
Season of Autumn Rains	57
Flowers in a Mirror	125
Feelings of Women	149
Snowy Morning	191
Lullabies	239
Sounds of Dawn	281
Walking in Beijing	315
Epilogue	375
	382

Scanner - Fifay
Translator - Fifay
Editor - Shichan

Join us at

FIFAY.NET

QUALITY COMICS HERE

Wildly Dancing Phoenix

IN BEIJING,
IN THE 1920S.
I feel such an unbearable pain as if a steel dagger has been thrust into my heart
"What degree of hatred should I hold? You have taken away my son's life. What should I do with you now?"

THEY SAY YANG Luoxian IS PLAYING HER THAT'S A Dan-jue'er*
*A "jue" in Chinese means a category or a role. The suffix "-er" presents how local people in Beijing speak. It should be pronounced like "-t"
WHAT A ROMANTIC CHARACTER THAT Liu Yinchun IS
WHO IS PLAYING HER? WHAT IS THE Jue'er*?
Lao Liu PRESENTED THE SHOW AS A GIFT TO CELEBRATE MY BIRTHDAY
HAI'ER, YOU HAVEN'T WATCHED THE SHOW YET
Da-tai-ye*, I FOUND Da-Shao-ye*
I WAS BUSY MANAGING SERVANTS ...
Gu Nai nai*
Hai'er, A LONG TIME NO SEE
LOOK AT YOU! YOU HAVE BECOME AN ADULT

*"Da Tai-ye" in Chinese – The First Grand Master
"Da Shao-ye" in Chinese – it refers to the First Young Master in this scenario

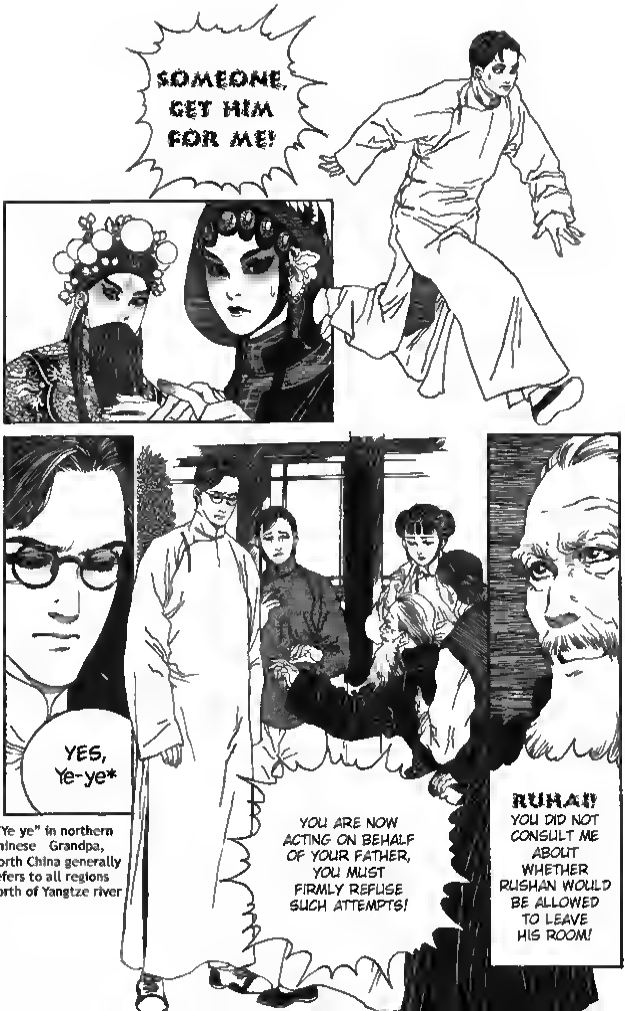
**"Gu Nai nai" in Chinese it refers to one's grand aunt in this scenario

❖ The Category of Peking Opera Part I ❖

Qing 青 Yi 衣

Qing-Yi is a sub category of Dan The excellent singing skills are the essential requirement for anyone who will play a Qing-Yi character. Qing-Yi characters are normally well-behaved women from good families, or elegant ladies, or idealistic heroines etc

THESE DAYS YOUNG PEOPLE ARE NUMB TO PICK UP THE SUBTLETY BEHIND A PEKING OPERA
BUT, YOU HAVE A GRANDSON WHO UNDERSTANDS THINGS WELL WHAT LUCK, MY BIG BROTHER
HE USED TO BE QUITE SELFISH I WAS VERY WORRIED NOW, HE'S GROWN TO SUCH A GOOD BOY
IS THAT ...
WHOA BRAVO BRAVO
!?
Ru shan !!
IS THAT YOU!


SOMEONE, GET HIM FOR ME!
YES, Ye-ye*
YOU ARE NOW ACTING ON BEHALF OF YOUR FATHER, YOU MUST FIRMLY REFUSE SUCH ATTEMPTS!
RUHAI! YOU DID NOT CONSULT ME ABOUT WHETHER RUSHAN WOULD BE ALLOWED TO LEAVE HIS ROOM!

*"Ye ye" in northern Chinese Grandpa, North China generally refers to all regions north of Yangtze river

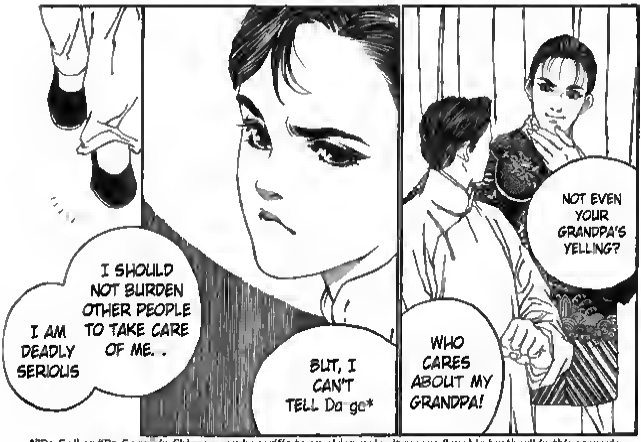
Lian xiang!
THAT OLD BABOON WAS SUCH AN ASSHOLE
IF HE IS GOING TO FIND FAULTS LIKE THAT WE'D BETTER GO HOME RIGHT AWAY
Gege*,
*' Ge ge" in Chinese the honorific to one's elder brother
NOT A PROBLEM!
STILL, CALLING HIM A BABOON OR IS NOT APPRECIATED
I DON'T LIKE THAT KIND OF SNOBS
THAT OLD MAN DID NOT EVEN BOTHER TO SHAKE YOUR HAND, GEGE, WHEN YOU WERE GREETING HIM

I AM SORRY, I WAS HIDING THERE
ARE YOU ONE OF THE YOUNG MASTERS OF THIS HOUSE-HOLD?
HIDING
HE HE HE
I AM NOT ALLOWED TO WATCH THE SHOW
THE ORDER WAS FROM MY GRANDPA. IRONICALLY, HE HIMSELF IS A FANATIC PEKING OPERA FAN
ARE YOU THE YANG LUOXIAN? WELL, I WONDER IF I MAY BOTHER YOU. I'D LIKE TO ENHANCE MY SING SKILLS?
I AM PLANNING TO xia-hai*

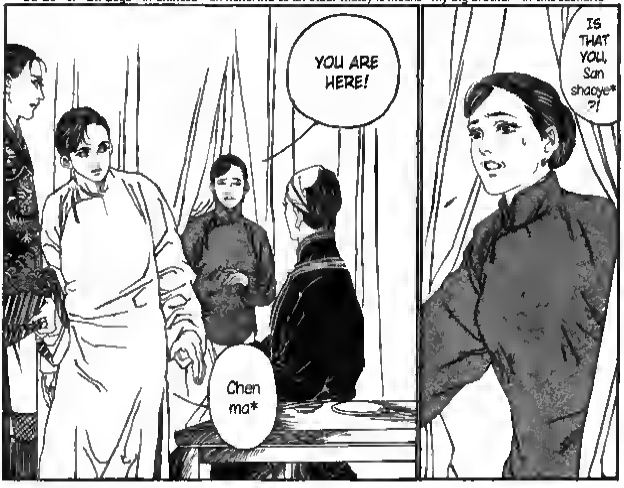
*The term of "xia-hai" means that a person resigns from his/her good occupation and wealth to take risks for potential successes. The literal translation is "going to sea".

*"The literal translation of "Pian yo" in Chinese in old days it referred to patrons who were also occasionally on stage

When a young female character starts dancing
When an old male character starts singing
When folk violins start humming
When copper gongs start gonging
ARE YOU A FRIEND OF tickets*?
YES THE IMPORTANCE OF PEKING OPERA IN MY LIFE IS SECOND ONLY TO FOOD
When a masked character poses on stage and an audience sends thunderous applauses
I FEEL NOTHING EXISTING IN THIS WORLD EXCEPT THE BLOOD-BOILING EXCITEMENT


I AM DEADLY SERIOUS
I SHOULD NOT BURDEN OTHER PEOPLE TO TAKE CARE OF ME. .
BUT, I CAN'T TELL Da ge*
WHO CARES ABOUT MY GRANDPA!
NOT EVEN YOUR GRANDPA'S YELLING?

*"Da Ge" or "Da Gege" in Chinese - an honorific to an older male, it means "my big brother" in this scenario



*"San Shao ye" in Chinese - Third Young Master, Chinese honorifics among siblings are prefixed with a number according to the sequence of births

*"Chen ma" - "Chen" is the surname. The general suffix of "ma" refers to one generation older female servants

SAN-SHAOYE, DA-TAIYE IS FURIOUS I AM AFRAID THAT YOU WILL BE SCOLDED THIS TIME
I MAY ALSO HAVE TO THANK HIM FOR HIS VIGILANCE
SHHHH
CHEN-MA, KEEP QUIET. LET US SNEAK BACK TO MY ROOM
THERE BROTHER LUOXIAN
IS IT POSSIBLE FOR ME TO VISIT YOU IN YOUR PLACE TOMORROW?
IT WILL BE VERY KIND OF YOU, SAN-SHAOYE

LUOXIAN
YOU HAVE A VISITOR

*Taishi or Taifu in Chinese - the master tutor of a crown prince. Taishi normally had enormous influence on the future emperor

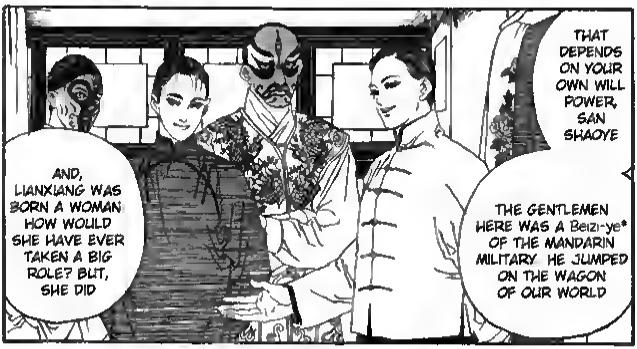
When the late Emperor passed away, the Crown Prince was too young to rule the country. Taishi, grasped the opportunity and seized the imperial court.

Is there any affection left between a father and a daughter?

A widow with an orphan lives miserably like animals

RIGHT. YOU MAY BECOME AS FAMOUS A DAN AS MEI LANFANG
SAN-SHAOYE IS A FAIR YOUNG MAN PUT ON SOME MAKEUP, YOU WILL BE EVERYBODY'S DARLING
YOU MEAN AS FAMOUS AS YANG LUOXIAN!

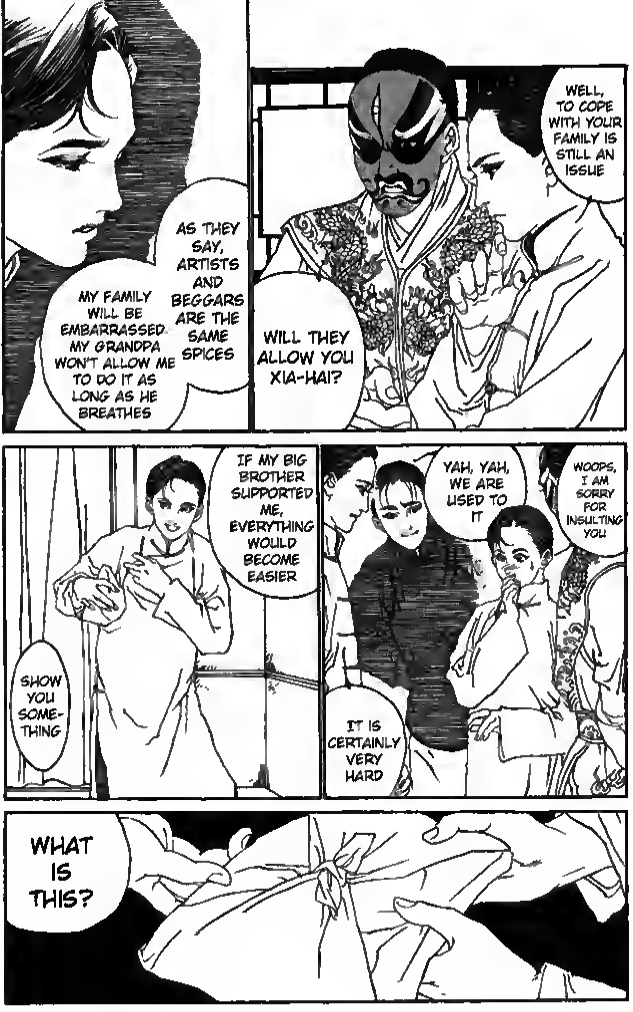
IN THE END, I MAY BE NOTHING, BUT A RICH LOITERER FROM A BIG FAMILY
MY BIG BROTHER OFTEN TELLS ME THAT I ONLY SEE BLOOMING ROSES
BUT, TO BE HONEST, I'M NOT SURE
I HOPE SO


AND, LIANXIANG WAS BORN A WOMAN HOW WOULD SHE HAVE EVER TAKEN A BIG ROLE? BUT, SHE DID
THE GENTLEMEN HERE WAS A Beizi-ye* OF THE MANDARIN MILITARY. HE JUMPED ON THE WAGON OF OUR WORLD
THAT DEPENDS ON YOUR OWN WILL POWER, SAN SHAOYE

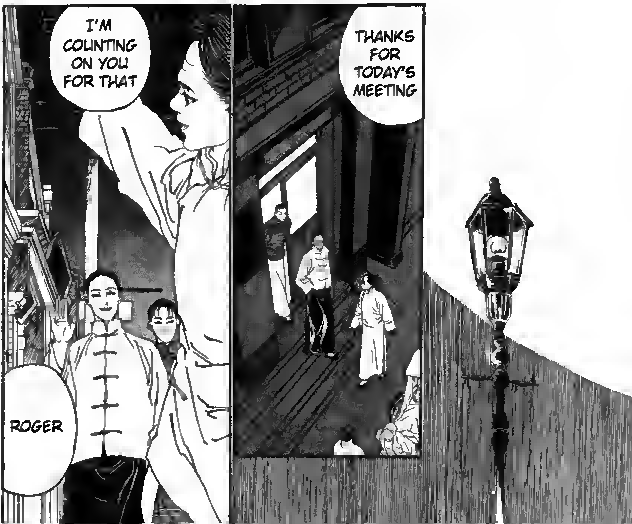
*One of the noble ranks of the Qing Dynasty(1616AD - 1911AD).
The "ye" is a honorific suffix for males

I JUST CAN'T GIVE UP WHAT I REALLY LOVE
BUT, ISN'T DIFFICULT FOR THE WOMAN IF SHE IS ALWAYS IN MAN'S SHOES?
OF COURSE, IT'S TOUGH. I DON'T LIKE TO THINK ABOUT IT
AREN'T YOU THE SAME? YOU LOVE PEKING OPERA SO MUCH THAT YOU HAVE DECIDED TO XIA-HAI?
THERE ARE NOT MANY PERFORMERS WHO WERE BORN TO BE A PERFORMER. MANY OF THEM TOOK THE SAME PATH OF xia-hai*
TO DEAL WITH IT, I JUST GET UP IN THE MORNING AND BUSY MYSELF WITH THE PREPARATIONS FOR THE DAILY SHOW
RIGHT GEGE?
YES

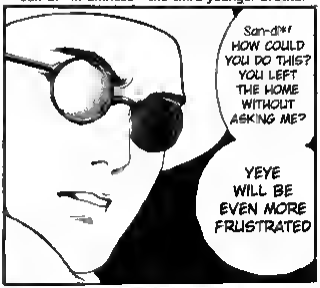
19 *Like many Chinese expressions, "xia-hai" can be both a verb, and a noun

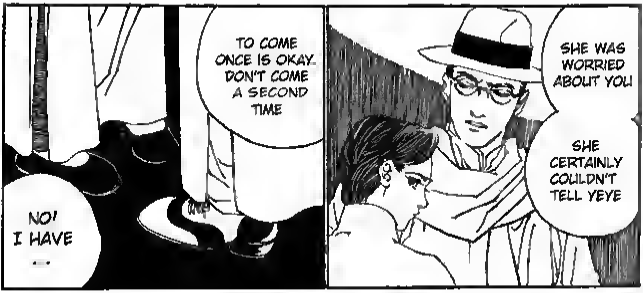

MY FAMILY WILL BE EMBARRASSED. MY GRANDPA WON'T ALLOW ME TO DO IT AS LONG AS HE BREATHES
AS THEY SAY, ARTISTS AND BEGGARS ARE THE SAME SPICES
WILL THEY ALLOW YOU XIA-HAI?
WELL, TO COPE WITH YOUR FAMILY IS STILL AN ISSUE
SHOW YOU SOME-THING
IF MY BIG BROTHER SUPPORTED ME, EVERYTHING WOULD BECOME EASIER
IT IS CERTAINLY VERY HARD
YAH, YAH, WE ARE USED TO IT
WOOPS, I AM SORRY FOR INSULTING YOU
WHAT IS THIS?

THIS ... IS MY SECRET WEAPON
A PLAY SCRIPT FOR PEKING OPERA?
COULD YOU GIVE ME A HAND?


I'M COUNTING ON YOU FOR THAT
ROGER
THANKS FOR TODAY'S MEETING

**"San dì" in Chinese - the third younger brother




TO COME ONCE IS OKAY. DON'T COME A SECOND TIME
NO! I HAVE ...
SHE WAS WORRIED ABOUT YOU!
SHE CERTAINLY COULDN'T TELL YEYE

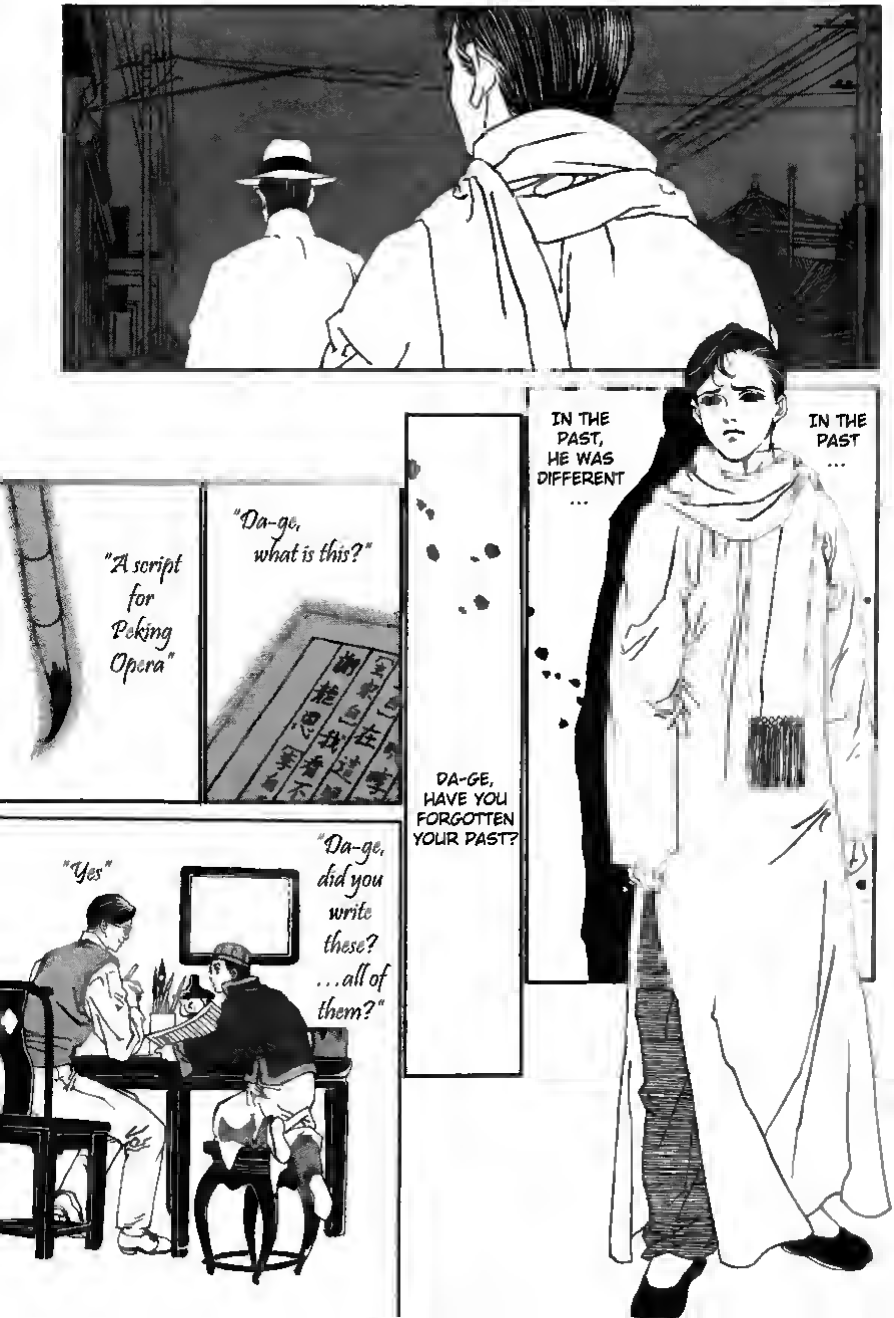
SAN DI!
GET REAL! IT IS UNREALISTIC TO BE SO OBSESSED WITH PEKING OPERA

LIAN XIANG !!
EXCUSE US, DA SHAOYE
HEY YOU!
WHAT IS WITH REAL OR UNREAL STUFF!
JUST BECAUSE YOU DON'T LIKE PEKING OPERA, IT DOESN'T MEAN THAT YOUR BROTHER..
BUT, I WONDER WHAT YOU JUST SAID
IS REALLY WHAT IS IN YOUR HEART?

YOU WATCHED THE SHOW SO INTENSIVELY THAT YOU SEEMED IGNORING ALL COMMOTION AROUND YOU. YOU ENTHUSIASTICALLY APPLAUDED AND CLEARLY ACKNOWLEDGED MY PERFORMANCE
YOU WERE AMONG THE GUESTS ON THAT DAY
TODAY'S YOU IS NOT LIKE THE ONE OF MY IMPRESSION
DA SHAOYE
IN MY OPINION, YOU LOVE PEKING OPERA NO LESS THAN YOUR YOUNGER BROTHER THAT IS WHY I HOLD MY DOUBTS

YOU ARE WRONG!
I ...
I HATE PEKING OPERA
DA GE I AM ... SORRY
THAT'S ALL RIGHT
I UNDERSTAND HOW YOU FEEL

REALLY DA-GE?
HEY, DA-GE, ARE YOU SURE THAT YOU DON'T LIKE PEKING OPERA ANYMORE?
.....
TELL ME, DA-GE, DO YOU STILL LIKE TO WATCH SHOWS WITH ME?
WELL, I REALLY WISH YOU WOULD BE AS YOU WERE IN THE OLD DAYS ...
SHUT UP!
DON'T MENTION PEKING OPERA IN FRONT OF ME ANYMORE!!


IN THE PAST ...
IN THE PAST, HE WAS DIFFERENT ...
DA-GE, HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN YOUR PAST?
"Da-ge, what is this?"
"A script for Peking Opera"
"Da-ge, did you write these? ...all of them?"
"Yes"

*"Di-di" in Chinese - the honorific to one's younger brother

OH, FONGCAI
I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU FOR A WHILE
WHAT ARE YOU READING?
"PEKING OPERA STUDIES"
HA, THE OLD HOBBY WON'T DIE YOU STILL LOVE PEKING OPERA
WHAT ARE YOU HIDING AT YOUR BACK?
NO-THING REALLY
NO
I AM NOT INTERESTED IN IT ANYMORE
NO
I ACCIDENTALLY SPOTTED IT AND PICK IT UP
SO, YOU ARE NOT CRAZY ABOUT THE STUFF ANYMORE?

YOU ARE LYING
WEREN'T YOU THE CRAZIEST FANATIC OF PEKING OPERA?
WHEN WE WERE IN THE HIGH SCHOOL, DIDN'T YOU TALK ABOUT SOMETHING LIKE CREATING A NEW STYLE OF PEKING OPERA
WHICH WOULD COMBINE GOOD TRADITIONS AND FRESH IDEAS FROM FOREIGN COUNTRIES TO FIT IN TODAY'S SOCIETY?
I USED TO BET ALL THE TIME THAT YOU'D GET INTO A COLLEGE.
SO, YOU STOPPED WRITING SCRIPTS?
IT'S OLD NEWS.
I AM REALLY BUSY AT WORK AND AT HOME
BESIDES, MY GRANDFATHER WOULD'VE BEEN VERY DISPLEASED IF I STILL SUBMERGED IN PEKING OPERA
I WAS SHOCKED WHEN I HEARD THAT YOU SUDDENLY STARTED WORKING FOR A BANK
THAT WAS ONLY A DREAM, WASN'T IT?
TO MOUNT MY OWN SHOWS ON STAGE ...

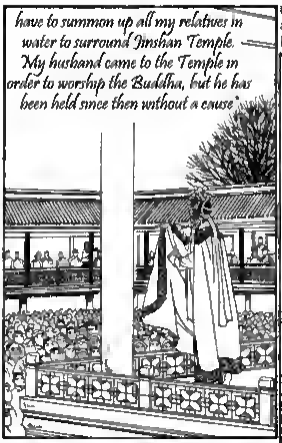
...
NEVER MIND
...
THE GRAND MASTER ORDERED
DA SHAO YE!
TO FIND SAN SHAOYE
...
DA-GE TAUGHT ME HOW TO APPRECIATE PEKING OPERA WHEN I WAS LITTLE
BUT, DA-GE HAS CHANGED SINCE YE-YE BURNT ALL SCRIPTS THAT'D BEEN WRITTEN BY DA-GE
...

MY GRANDFATHER DECIDED MY BIG BROTHER TO BE A BANK CLERK. BUT, MY BIG BROTHER REFUSED
WHY DID YOUR GRANDPA DO THAT WITH DA-SHAOYE'S SCRIPTS?
BECAUSE WE ARE NOT SUPPOSED TO SAY "NO" TO YE-YE
THIS KIND OF REBELLIONS IS EVER FORBIDDEN SO, MY GRANDFATHER
BLAMED MY BIG BROTHER ON SPENDING TOO MUCH TIME ON THE SCRIPTS HE THOUGHT THAT WAS THE CAUSE OF THE REBELLION
LIAN XIANG!
THAT OLD CRAP IS REALLY INTOLER-ABLE!
THEY KEPT REPROACH-ING MY BIG BROTHER!
MY GRANDFATHER WAS SUPPORTED BY OLD FASHIONED RELATIVES THEY TRIED TO STRAIGHTEN MY BIG BROTHER OUT, SO HE WOULD BE MORE RESPONSIBLE

*A port city east of Beijing
I HAVE A DISTANT RELATIVE WHO'S AN ACTOR THERE I'VE ALREADY CONTACTED HIM
TOMORROW, I'LL ABOARD A SHIP FROM Tianjin* TO SHANGHAI
WHAT?!
I DON'T WANT TO BE A VICTIM, LIKE DA-GE
I'M RUNNING AWAY FROM THIS FAMILY
DID ANYONE IN YOUR FAMILY KNOW ABOUT IT?
NOBODY, EXCEPT CHEN-MA
YOU DON'T HAVE MUCH BAGGAGE
YOU SURELY HAVE GUTS . .
I WROTE A LETTER AND ASKED HER TO PASS IT TO YE-YE THREE DAYS AFTER MY DEPARTURE

IT WON'T WORK. I ASSUMED THAT IF HE SAW THE SHOW, HE MIGHT RECALL HIS PASSIONS AND WOULD BECOME SUPPORTIVE
WELL, IS DA SHAOYE TODAY ...
HE IS NOT COMING
WHAT IS YANG LUOXIAN GOING TO PLAY TODAY?
BUT, TODAY, IT'LL BE A NEW PROGRAMME CALLED "JINSHAN TEMPLE"
IS THAT RIGHT ?
Bai Shuzheng FROM THE "TALE OF THE WHITE SNAKE".

*"Submerging Jinshan Temple" is a part of the "Tale of White Snake". The sub-plot normally generates spectacular moves in a variety of Chinese folk operas besides Peking Opera


have to summon up all my relatives in water to surround Jinshan Temple.
My husband came to the Temple in order to worship the Buddha, but he has been held since then without a cause.

I, Bai Shuzheng,

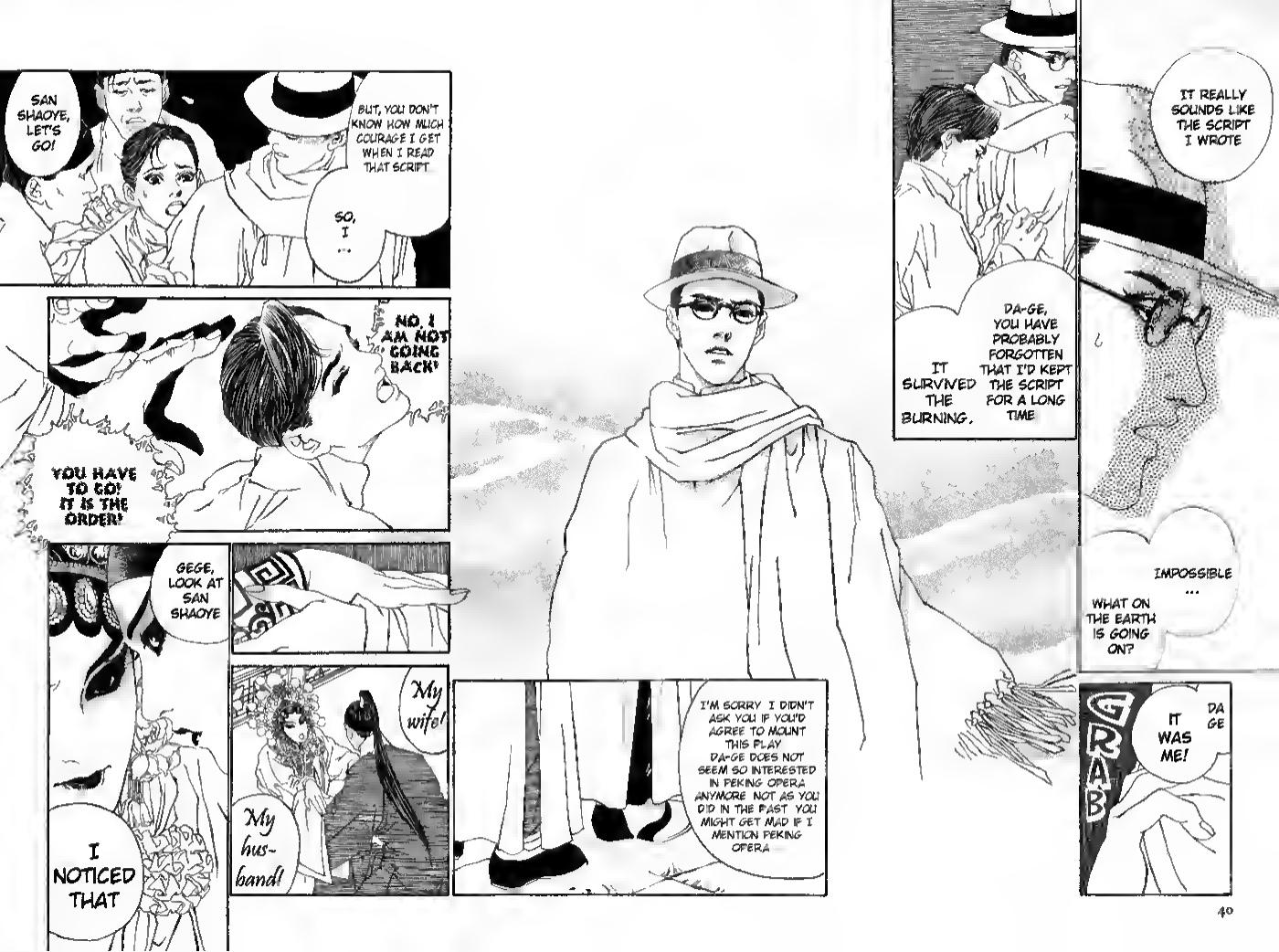
* Er shu in Chinese refers to the first younger brother next to one's father
DA GE ?!
AND, Er shu* ...
YOU STILL CAME HERE, HUH?
YOU, YOUNG PEOPLE, ARE ALWAYS SO SELFISH
CAN'T YOU CONSIDER HOW WORRIED THE GRAND MASTER IS?
SAN SHAO YE!
CHEN MA ...
SAN SHAOYE, PLEASE FORGIVE ME
I ACCIDENTALLY DROPPED YOUR LETTER ...
LET'S GO, RUHAI!
RU HAI ?
SEVEN STEPS*

*Someone was discussing the performance

WHAT IS IT, RUHAI?
Ah Ah

Xu Xian* will be under the care of this honorable priest. You are a disguised monster. You should not have been allowed to be his wife.
Why do you keep trying to separate a loving couple? Where is heaven's justice?
The monster must be terminated at once!
The Heaven's justice is on my side. The Heaven's justice always supports the one who fights one's own destiny

OBEYING ONE'S DESTINY IS THE EXCUSE FOR CONCEALING ONE'S COWARDICE
I will never resign.
Sister !
I will stand firmly regardless of how many enemies I am facing
If I start thinking about resignation, my hope will vanish
NO DOUBT


SAN SHAOYE, LET'S GO!
BUT, YOU DON'T KNOW HOW MUCH COURAGE I GET WHEN I READ THAT SCRIPT
SO, I ...
NO, I AM NOT GOING BACK!
YOU HAVE TO GO! IT IS THE ORDER!
GEGE, LOOK AT SAN SHAOYE
I NOTICED THAT
My wife!
My husband!
I'M SORRY I DIDN'T ASK YOU IF YOU'D AGREE TO MOUNT THIS PLAY DA-GE DOES NOT SEEM SO INTERESTED IN PEKING OPERA ANYMORE NOT AS YOU DID IN THE PAST YOU MIGHT GET MAD IF I MENTION PEKING OPERA
IT SURVIVED THE BURNING.
DA-GE, YOU HAVE PROBABLY FORGOTTEN THAT I'D KEPT THE SCRIPT FOR A LONG TIME
IT REALLY SOUNDS LIKE THE SCRIPT I WROTE
IMPOSSIBLE ...
WHAT ON THE EARTH IS GOING ON?
GRAB
DA GE
IT WAS ME!

SHALL WE HELP?
LET'S DO IT!
WA

Monster! Where are you running!

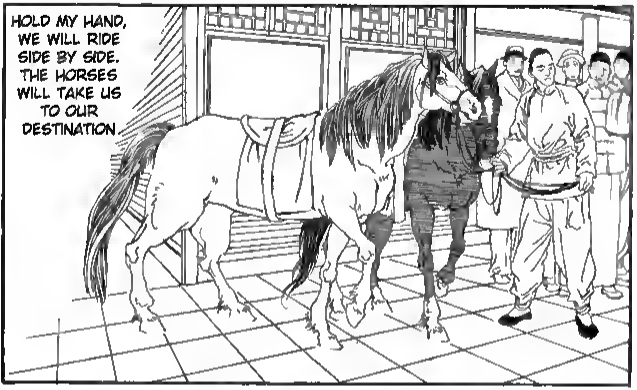
WHOA
AH! JEEZ!!
EVERYONE, WE ARE FOLLOWING THE CHOREOGRAPHY. WE MAY PERFORM OUTSIDE OF THE STAGE.
PLEASE TAKE CARE

HA HA HA HA HA
BRAVO !!!
THE YOUNG ACTORS
FASCI-NATING!
WHAT? IS THIS A PART OF THE PLOT?
EEE, LIU XIAN
SHAN SHAO YE
SHAN HAO YE!
AH?
SHHH
COME THIS WAY
WHERE ARE YOU?

HEY, BOSS, DID YOU PASS OUT THERE?
WHATEVER YOU CALL IT, IT'S FINE WITH ME IT SEEMS LIKE THE AUDIENCE UNDERSTANDS IT.
WHAT IS GOING ON?
WHAT ?

DID SAN SHAOYE ESCAPED?
NOT YET. THE SERVANTS ARE SURROUNDING THE THEATER.
I HID HIM IN THE BACKSTAGE AND QUICKLY CAME BACK
SO, SAN SHAOYE IS STILL THERE
MM
THERE IS NO CHANCE OF GETTING OUT
OKAY LET'S TRY THIS

WHO CARES I'LL GET THE WAGON HORSES
WHY DOES HE WANT TO DO THAT?
LUOXIAN WILL JUMP ON A HORSEBACK FROM THE STAGE
HORSES ?!
Let us renew the marriage vow
We will live like a pair of mandarin ducks.
Our love shall last for a thousand years



*One of the characters in the "Tale of the White Snake"

Give me treats, my beautiful
STOMP
ING
DA
DA DA DA

In the end, the iron will of keeping the marriage helped Bai Shuzheng to get what she had desired!
BRAVO !!!
ぱちぱち
SFX: CLAP CLAP CLAP
WOWW !!
Trouble! The Snake escaped!

EH?
LET HIM GO
WHERE IS SAN SHAOYE?
DA SHAO YE

DA SHAO YE
I WILL ANSWER FOR HIS ACTIONS
GIVE HIM WHAT HE WANTS.

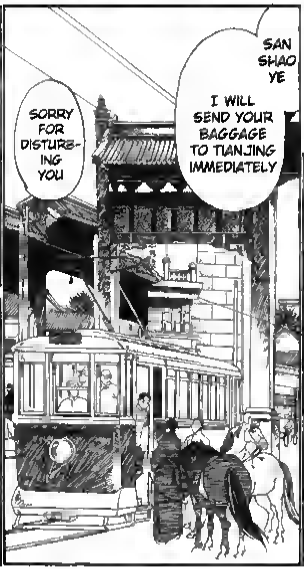
SUCH A COWARD
I WAS ...

I WILL NEVER RESIGN
NOT ALL OF MY DREAM HAVE BEEN LOST
I JUST FORGOT IT ...
IF I START THINKING ABOUT RESIGNATION, MY HOPE WILL VANISH
I WILL NEVER RESIGN
NEVER!
IT'S MAGIC! EVERYTHING WORKED OUT
YES, IT IS

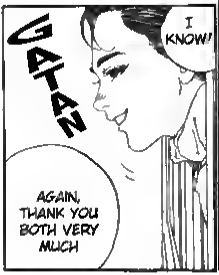
LIANXIANG ASKED ME TO STAY
WHY ARE YOU HERE?
WHAT ?!
BY WHOM?
I WAS REPLACED BY SOMEONE ELSE
AREN'T YOU THE LITTLE CHIN?
EH?
IT'S FAR ENOUGH I THINK WE SHOULD BE OK NOW
SAN SHAOYE, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
SO HEAVY

YES, I AM

YOU MUST WORK HARD
THIS IS A DETER-MINED PATH BY YOURSELF


SAN SHAO YE
I WILL SEND YOUR BAGGAGE TO TIANJING IMMEDIATELY
SORRY FOR DISTURB-ING YOU

CHIRP!


I KNOW!
GATAN
AGAIN, THANK YOU BOTH VERY MUCH

I'LL STUDY HARD. I'LL BECOME A TOP-NOTCH PERFORMER!
ANYWAY ...
GOOD BYE!

GOOD BYE!

Yanjing Linren Chao

by Sumeragi Natsuki

a fifay.net scanlation
not for sBay

to be continued...

愁雨歳月
しゅううさいげつ

愁雨歳月

しゅううさいげつ

Season of Autumn Rains

Scanner - Fifay
Translator - Fifay
Editor - Shichan

Join us at
FIFAY.NET

a preview of scanlation

❖ The Category of Peking Opera Part II ❖

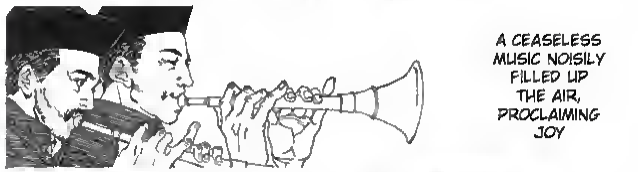
Hua 花

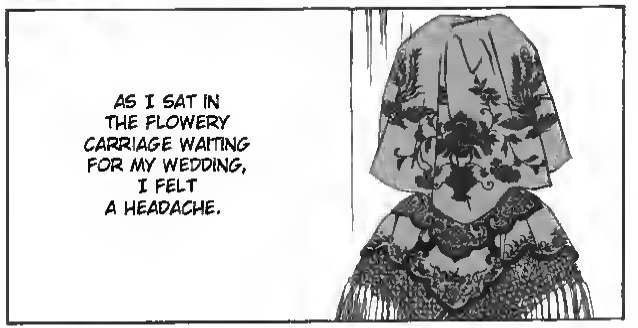
Dan 旦

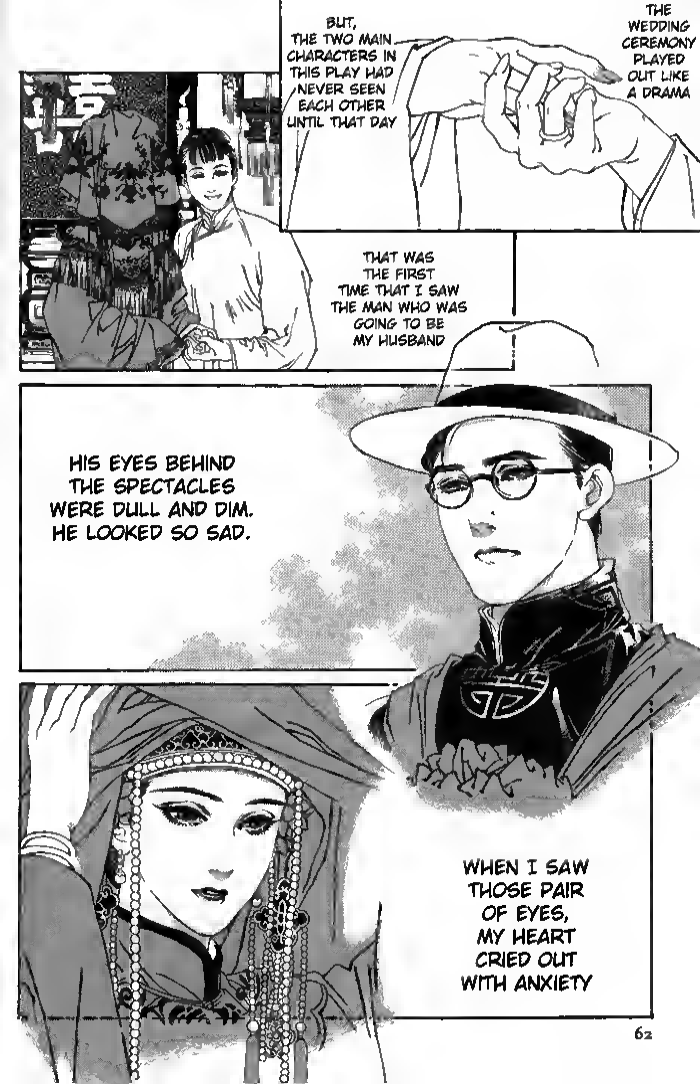
Such roles demand the core skill: performance. The roles portray young companions or servants of old ladies, or young girls, etc.

SPECIAL THANKS TO REM FOR TEXT EDITING

AT AGE SEVENTEEN, IN A RED WEDDING GOWN, I MARRIED ONE OF THE FENGS


A CEASELESS MUSIC NOISILY FILLED UP THE AIR, PROCLAIMING JOY


AS I SAT IN THE FLOWERY CARRIAGE WAITING FOR MY WEDDING, I FELT A HEADACHE.


BUT, THE TWO MAIN CHARACTERS IN THIS PLAY HAD NEVER SEEN EACH OTHER UNTIL THAT DAY
THE WEDDING CEREMONY PLAYED OUT LIKE A DRAMA
THAT WAS THE FIRST TIME THAT I SAW THE MAN WHO WAS GOING TO BE MY HUSBAND
HIS EYES BEHIND THE SPECTACLES WERE DULL AND DIM. HE LOOKED SO SAD.
WHEN I SAW THOSE PAIR OF EYES, MY HEART CRIED OUT WITH ANXIETY

MY HUSBAND, PLEASE LOVE ME,
PLEASE LOVE ME ...
"Shao-nainai in Mandarin is "young mistress"
Shao-nainai*, DA-SHAOYE
HAS NOT COME BACK YET

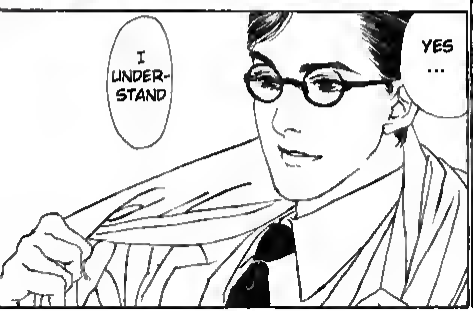
It hurt me very much
that you left me for the temple.
It is very cruel that you have forgotten
how you cried in front of me
and swore under the stars.
Instead, you have caused
the disaster together with Fahai*.
Think carefully whether you
still have merit to face your wife?

BUT ... THE GRAND MASTER IS LOOKING FOR HIM
WHEN HE IS BACK,
I'LL LET HIM KNOW RIGHT AWAY
TODAY, HE IS EXCEPTIONALLY LATE
THAT DAN ...
YANG LUO XIANG

*The Buddhist monk in the "Tale of White Snake"

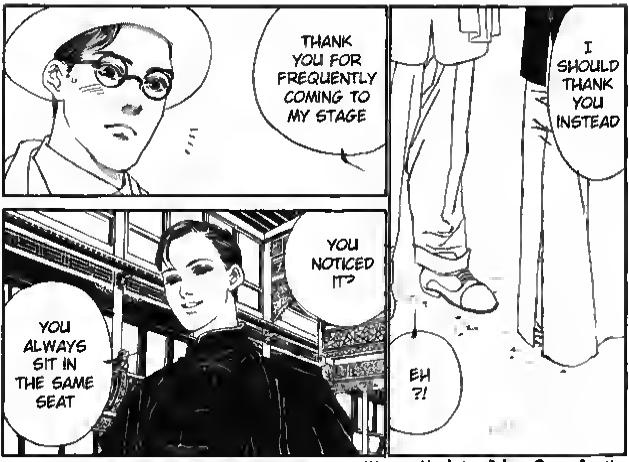
BRAVO
1920 PEKING
BRAVO
BRAVO
BRAVO

THE THEATRE IS CLOSING
THERE THE SHOW HAS FINISHED

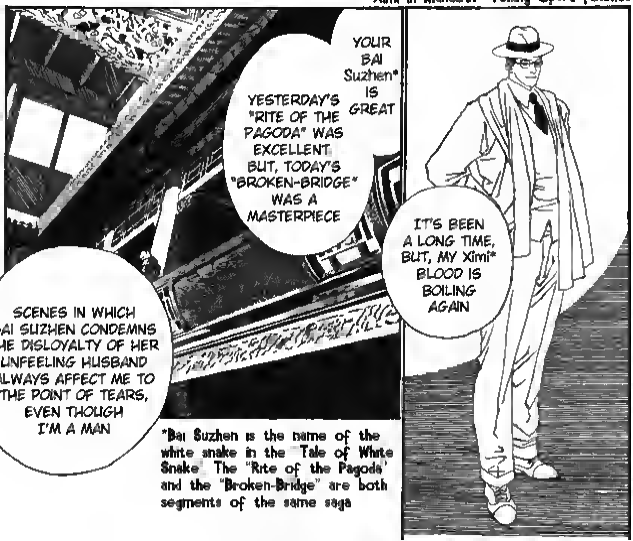

I UNDER-STAND
YES ...

FENG DA SHAOYE?
YANG Laoban*!
YES
SINCE THAT TIME WHEN YOU HELPED MY BROTHER, A FEW MONTHS AGO...
I'M REALLY SORRY FOR WHAT I DID
IT'S BEEN A WHILE DA-SHAOYE
NOT AT ALL. REGARDLESS HOW MUCH MY RELATIVES HATE THE IDEA, MY BROTHER IS UNABLE TO GIVE UP HIS DREAM OF PERFORMING
I SHOULD THANK YOU ACTUALLY

*Laoban in Mandarin is the honorific to all actors or actresses

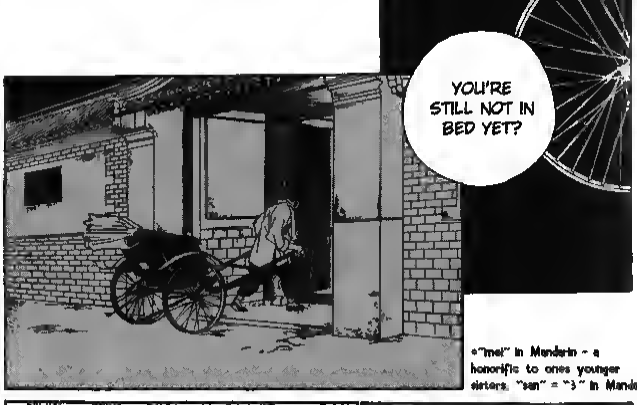


*Ximi in Mandarin – Peking Opera fanatics

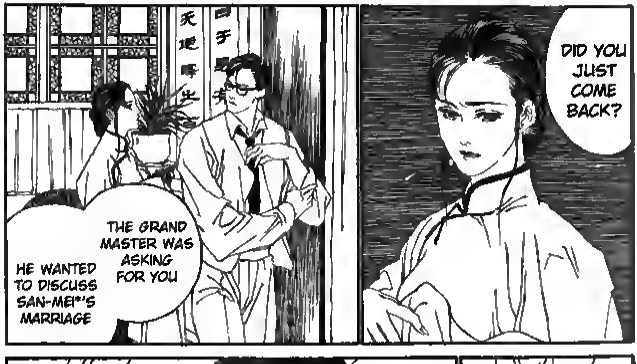

YOUR BAI Suzhen* IS GREAT
YESTERDAY'S "RITE OF THE PAGODA" WAS EXCELLENT. BUT, TODAY'S "BROKEN-BRIDGE" WAS A MASTERPIECE
SCENES IN WHICH BAI SUZHEN CONDEMNS THE DISLOYALTY OF HER UNFEELING HUSBAND ALWAYS AFFECT ME TO THE POINT OF TEARS, EVEN THOUGH I'M A MAN
IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME, BUT, MY Ximi* BLOOD IS BOILING AGAIN

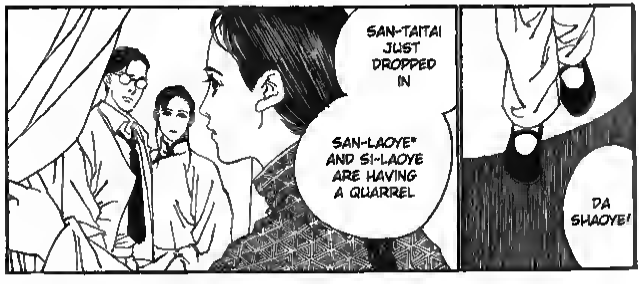
*Bai Suzhen is the name of the white snake in the Tale of White Snake. The "Rite of the Pagoda" and the "Broken-Bridge" are both segments of the same saga

IF YOU DON'T MIND, PLEASE FEEL FREE TO DISCUSS MY PERFORMANCE
IT'LL HELP ME TO IMPROVE MY SKILLS
I HAVE LITTLE ROMANTIC FEELINGS TOWARDS MY WIFE. STILL, I DON'T THINK
I'M IN THE SAME CATEGORY AS THAT CHARACTER
I WOULD LIKE TO INVITE YOU TO A DINNER
PERFECT! YANG LAOBAN, WHEN I'M WITH YOU, MY ONLY DESIRE IS TO TALK ABOUT PEKING OPERA
I SHALL BE GLAD TO GO

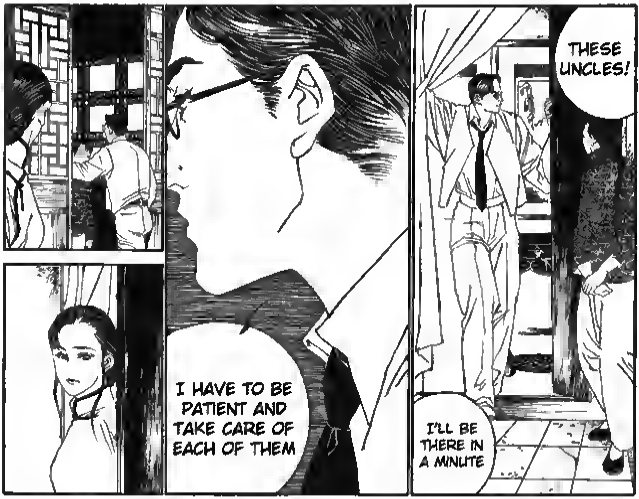


*"mei" in Mandarin = a honorific to ones younger sisters. "san" = "3" in Mandarin





*"taitai" in Mandarin = the honorific to ones mistress
*"laoye" in Mandarin = the honorific to ones master. "si" = "4" in Mandarin


I HAVE TO BE PATIENT AND TAKE CARE OF EACH OF THEM
THESE UNCLES!
I'LL BE THERE IN A MINUTE

Chai ping?
DA GE!
WHAT HAPPENED WITH THE UNCLES LAST NIGHT?
OH, THE USUAL STUFF, YOU KNOW
WHO WON OR WHO LOST IN THEIR MAHJONG GAME
YOU'RE ALSO ODD, DA-GE
HM!
YOU SEEM LIKE YOU'RE GETTING USED TO THE MISERABLE CONDITIONS
DO YOU HAVE TO WRITE? TODAY'S SUNDAY YOU ARE WORKING TOO HARD!
I'VE SPENT THE WHOLE DAY WITH GRANDPA. SI-MEI, HOW CAN I HELP YOU?
I WANT TO SHOW YOU SOMETHING
?

Dear Sister,
How are you?
I live in
Shanghai now

The trainng for a performer is much stricter than I expected. I learn new things everyday Since this is the life I wanted, please do not worry

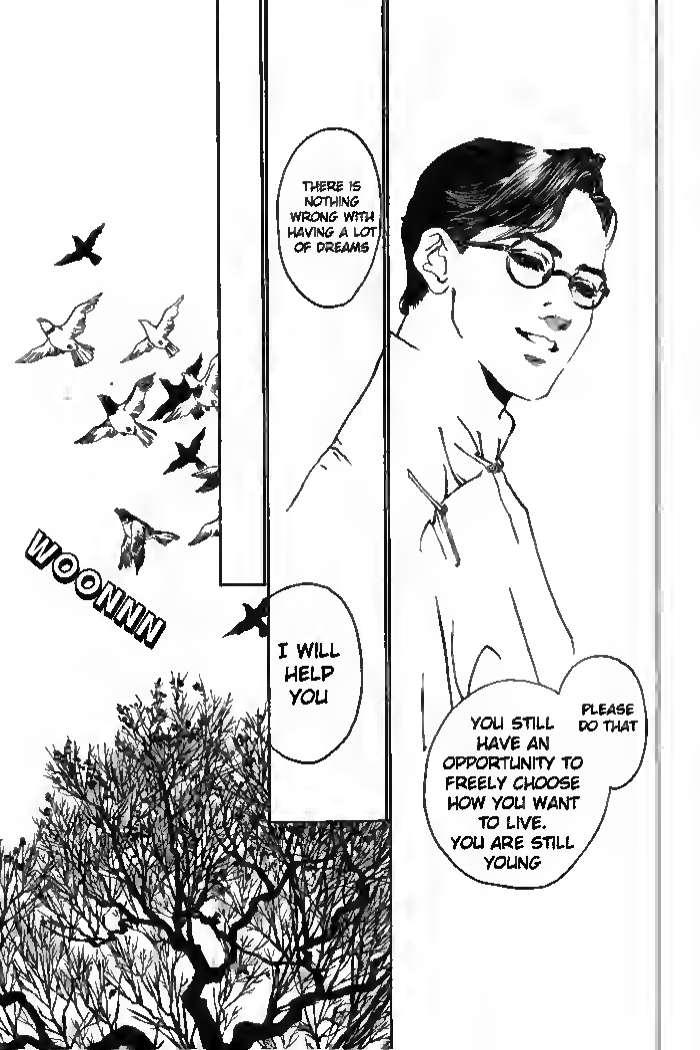
But, please keep the news away from Dage and Yeye

I do not want to be discovered and dragged home

DON'T BE UPSET, DAGE
DAGE HAS GOTTEN SO MUCH TROUBLE FROM YEYE FOR THE SAKE OF THAT BOY WE ALL KNOW THIS
DON'T TELL HIM ANYTHING ABOUT IT
IT MAY BOTHER HIM AND DAMPEN HIS SPIRITS
MY PLEASURE IS PEKING OPERA
FOR ME, THAT IS THE BIT OF LUXURY THAT I CAN DREAM ABOUT AND ENJOY
HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT TO DO SOMETHING FOR YOURSELF?
YES, A LITTLE BIT
DAGE, YOU ARE THE MOST UNLUCKY ONE OF ALL AS I SEE IT

DAGE, HOW CAN YOU BE SO CYNICAL!
YEYE HAS STOPPED GIVING ME WARM FACES. THAT IS BECAUSE OF WHAT I HAVE DONE
I HAVE NO REASON TO COMPLAIN
OUR LARGE FAMILY, COOPED UP AND NETTED, MAKES ME QUITE DEPRESS
YEYE IS A TYRANT, AND THE RELATIVES ARE ALL TREACHEROUS — THERE'RE LOTS OF BAD THINGS GOING AROUND
THEY ALWAYS USE THE MOTTO "A GRACEFUL LADY MUST BE UNINTELLIGENT"* TO CONFINE ME
I CAN'T STAND THIS FAMILY. I'LL DEFINITELY ESCAPE SOMEDAY

*A teaching of Confucius


THERE IS NOTHING WRONG WITH HAVING A LOT OF DREAMS
YOU STILL HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO FREELY CHOOSE HOW YOU WANT TO LIVE. YOU ARE STILL YOUNG
PLEASE DO THAT
I WILL HELP YOU
WOONNN

*"er" in Mandarin = "2"

HAVE YOU SEEN SI-MEI?
I SAW HER WITH ER-SHAOYE* IN THE SECOND MASTER'S PLACE A WHILE AGO. THEY WERE TALKING IN THE GAZEBO
CHEN MA
BEFORE, HE SEEMED AS IF HE COULD BARELY BREATHE
BUT ER-GE DA-GE HAS CHANGED A BIT
HE'S A LITTLE MORE CHEERFUL I THINK
DID YOU KNOW THAT WHEN DA-GE WAS IN THE HIGH SCHOOL, ALL HE DREAMED ABOUT WAS ENROLLING IN A UNIVERSITY, AND STUDYING ABROAD AFTERWARDS?

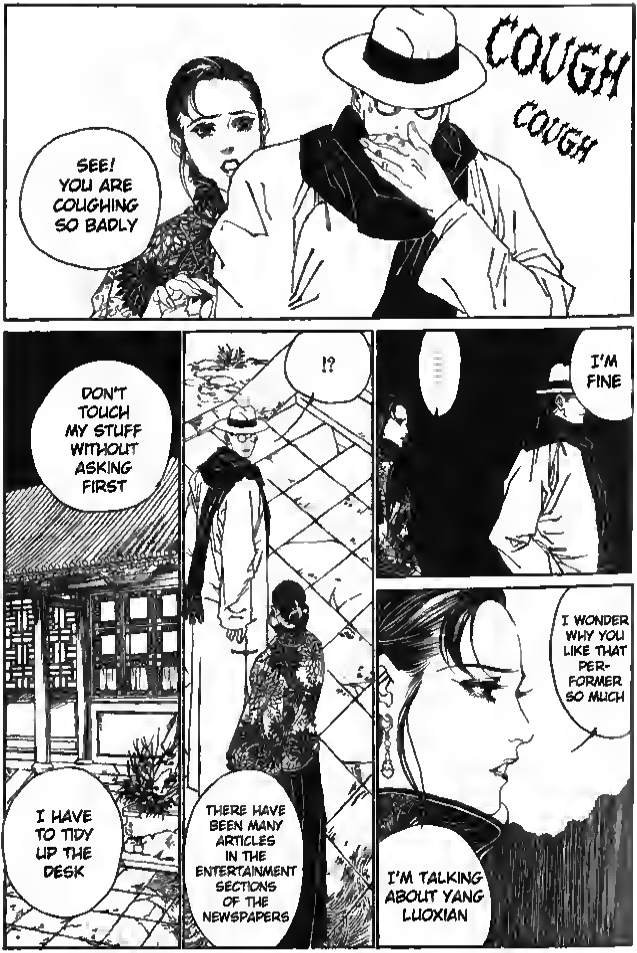
HE LOVES PEKING OPERA, BUT HIS LOVE IS FORBIDDEN
I FEEL BAD FOR HIM
BUT BECAUSE OUR FATHER PASSED AWAY, DA-GE HAD TO TAKE THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF THE WHOLE HOUSEHOLD. HE HAD TO FACE REALITY AND GIVE UP HIS DREAMS
IT MAY BE GOOD FOR DA-GE
I HOPE IT'S ALL RIGHT
THE LIGHT IN HIS ROOM OFTEN LASTS OVERNIGHT
I NOTICED RECENTLY THAT DA-GE IS WRITING PASSIONATELY IN HIS SPARE TIME. I ASSUME THEY'RE SCRIPTS OF PEKING OPERAS
YOU MAY BE RIGHT
WHAT IS IT WITH DA-SAO?
SO HE CAN AVOID DA-SAO*

*"sao" in Mandarin – the honorific to one's sister-in-law who marries one's "Da-ge"

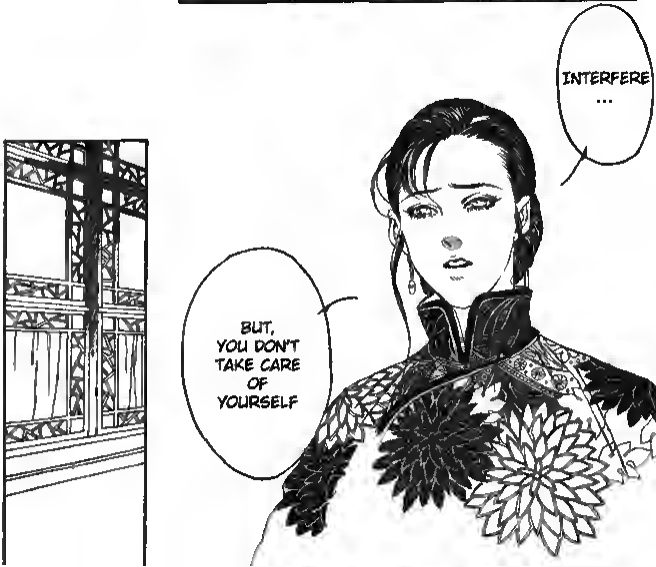
YOU KNOW
IT WOULD BE PERFECTLY FINE IF DA-GE DECIDES TO DIVORCE HER ONE DAY
SI-MEI, YOU'RE GOING TOO FAR!
SHE IS CONSTANTLY COMPLAINING
IT HAS TO BE
SHE IS NOT A REAL WIFE WHO CARES ABOUT HER HUSBAND
SI MEI!
IT WAS NOT THE MARRIAGE THAT DA-GE EXPECTED
I'M COMPLETELY FED UP WITH THAT PERSON
SHE RELIES ENTIRELY ON A MAN, BUT SHE DOESN'T EVEN CARE TO SHARE HIS LIFE. SHE'S SUCH AN OLD-FASHIONED WOMAN

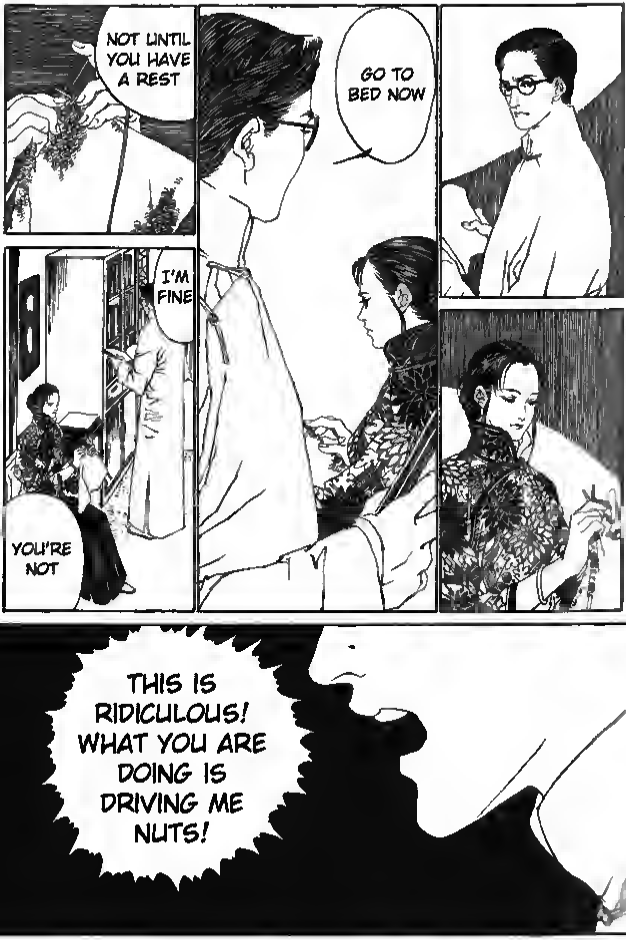
HOW ANNOYING
WERE YOU EAVES-DROPPING?
SI-MEI ... THOSE WORDS WERE VERY RUDE
IT'S NO BIG DEAL
WOULD YOU ... WOULD YOU DARE TO SAY SUCH WORDS IF YOU WERE MARRIED?!
WHAT'S THE POINT IN BEING A COUPLE WITHOUT LOVE!
FOR YOUR INFORMATION, I'LL ONLY MARRY A PERSON WHOM I LOVE, AND WHO LOVES ME BACK

LEAVE HER ALONE, ER-GE!
DA SAO!
EVERY NIGHT, AFTER WORK, YOU DON'T COME HOME. INSTEAD, YOU GO TO THE THEATRE UNTIL THIS LATE
AFTERWARDS, YOU REWRITE SCRIPTS IN YOUR ROOM ...
YOU SHOULD GO TO BED EARLIER
YOU ARE DESTROYING YOUR HEALTH


COUGH
COUGH
SEE! YOU ARE COUGHING SO BADLY
I'M FINE
!?
DON'T TOUCH MY STUFF WITHOUT ASKING FIRST
I WONDER WHY YOU LIKE THAT PER-FORMER SO MUCH
I HAVE TO TIDY UP THE DESK
THERE HAVE BEEN MANY ARTICLES IN THE ENTERTAINMENT SECTIONS OF THE NEWSPAPERS
I'M TALKING ABOUT YANG LUOXIAN

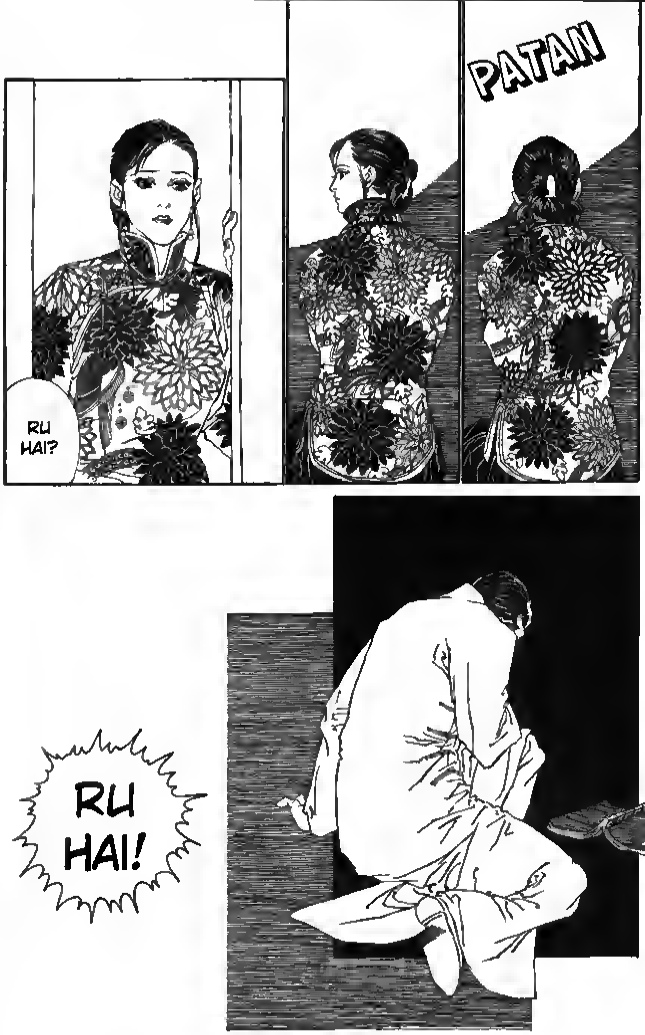
DON'T INTERFERE IN MY BUSINESS!

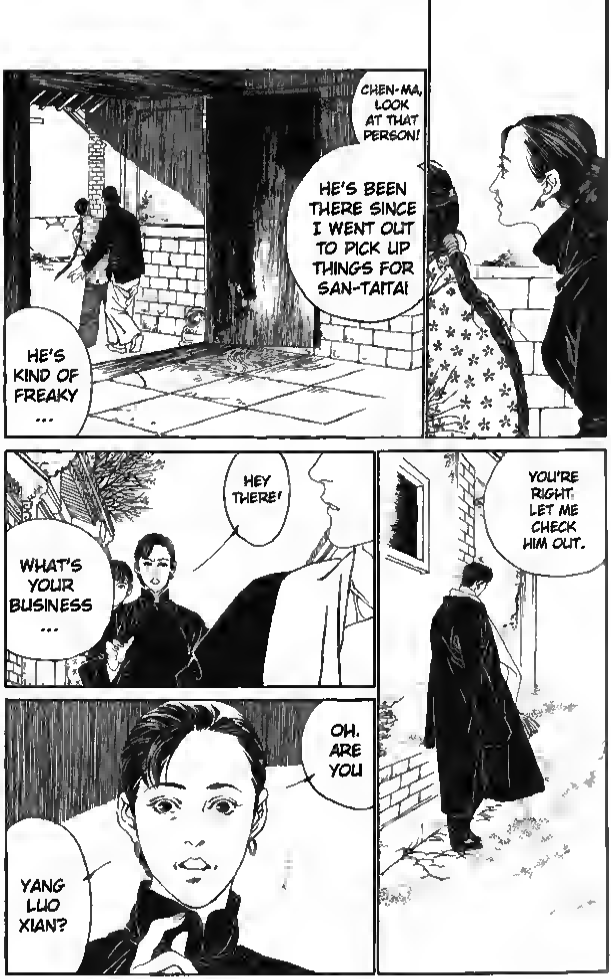

INTERFERE ...
BUT, YOU DON'T TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF


NOT UNTIL YOU HAVE A REST
GO TO BED NOW
I'M FINE
YOU'RE NOT
THIS IS RIDICULOUS! WHAT YOU ARE DOING IS DRIVING ME NUTS!

PATCHA
I'M SORRY ...
REALLY, I'M FINE. GO TO BED NOW

I'LL JOIN YOU SHORTLY
I ONLY HAVE A FEW QUESTIONS TO CHECK OUT
THEN ...
GOOD NIGHT


PATAN
RU HAI?
RU HAI!


CHEN-MA, LOOK AT THAT PERSON!
HE'S BEEN THERE SINCE I WENT OUT TO PICK UP THINGS FOR SAN-TAITAI
HE'S KIND OF FREAKY ...
HEY THERE!
WHAT'S YOUR BUSINESS ...
YOU'RE RIGHT. LET ME CHECK HIM OUT.
OH. ARE YOU
YANG LUO XIAN?

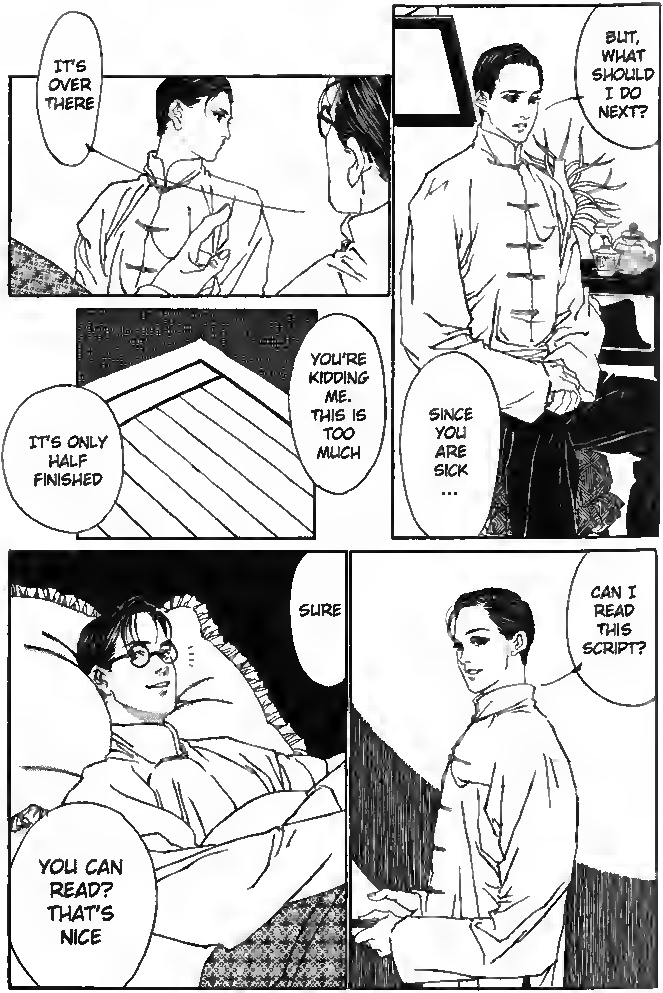
DA SHAO YE!
SHHH! HE JUST FELL ASLEEP

YANG LAO BAN?
BUT, SHAO-NAINAI, I COULDN'T REFUSE THIS GUEST ...
HEH HEH
THIS PERSON HAS BEEN LOITERING IN FRONT OF THE GATE SINCE THIS MORNING
YOU SHOULD'VE COME IN DIRECTLY
I'M SORRY FOR COMING HERE WITHOUT AN INVITATION
RE YOU FEELING BETTER?

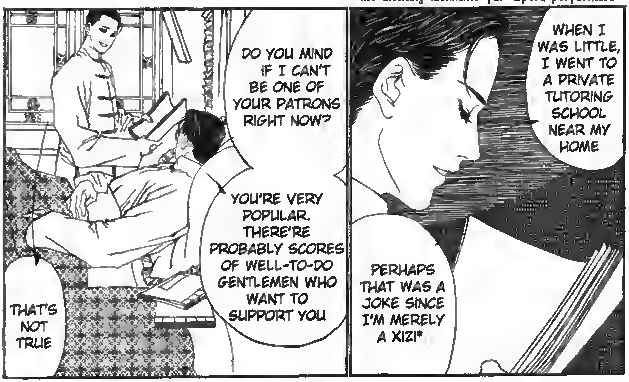
DON'T BE A STRANGER AREN'T WE FRIENDS?
COME AT WHATEVER TIME YOU LIKE
I LIKE PLAYS TOO
ARE YOU YANG LUOXIAN?
RUHAI OFTEN TALKS ABOUT YOU
OH YES, I JUST RECALLED THAT YOU PERFORMED AT THE GRAND MASTER'S BIRTHDAY, DIDN'T YOU?
THAT WAS A REALLY GREAT PERFORMANCE
HAVE A GOOD CHAT

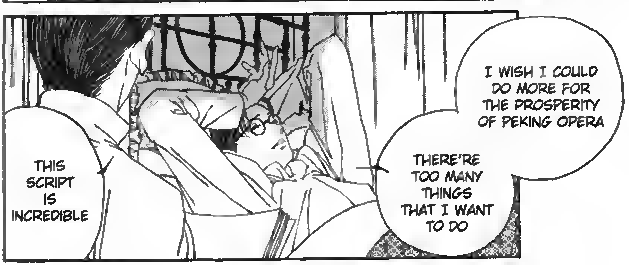
YOUR WIFE IS VERY NICE
.....
HA HA HA HA
!?
.....

ANYWAY, ONCE WHEN I WAS WAITING FOR A FRIEND, I STARTED PRACTICING EXPRESSIONS SINCE I HAD PLENTY OF TIME. I WAS ROLLING MY EYEBALLS THIS WAY AND THAT WAY
PEOPLE NOTICED IT THEY GATHERED AROUND ME ONE OF THEM TOOK THE THING SERIOUSLY
"HEY, SOMETHING IS WRONG WITH THE GUY, FIND A DOCTOR IMMEDIATELY!"
YOU'RE A GOOD STORYTELLER BESIDES BEING AN EXCELLENT ACTOR
I HAVEN'T HAD SUCH A RELAXING LAUGH FOR AGES
HA HA HA
YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO GET MORE SLEEP NOW, YOU WON'T GET ANY I'VE MADE YOU TOO EXCITED
DON'T BE SILLY
I WONDERED WHAT I HAD DONE TO CAUSE SUCH BIG FUSS

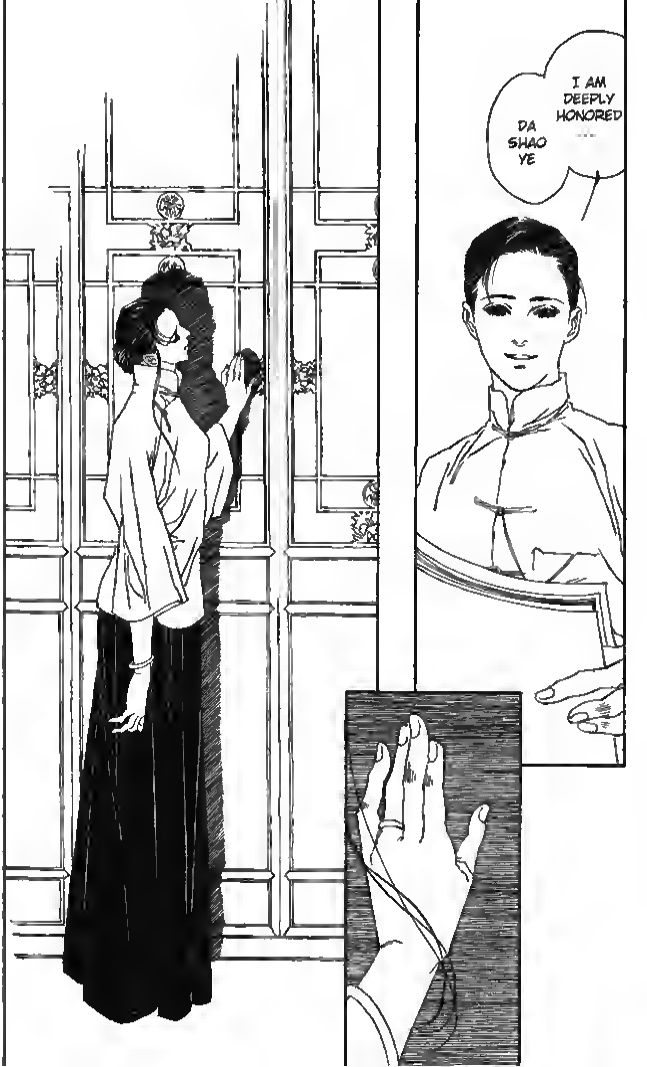

IT'S OVER THERE
BUT, WHAT SHOULD I DO NEXT?
SINCE YOU ARE SICK ...
YOU'RE KIDDING ME. THIS IS TOO MUCH
IT'S ONLY HALF FINISHED
CAN I READ THIS SCRIPT?
SURE
YOU CAN READ? THAT'S NICE

*the insulting nickname for Opera performers


DO YOU MIND IF I CAN'T BE ONE OF YOUR PATRONS RIGHT NOW?
YOU'RE VERY POPULAR. THERE'RE PROBABLY SCORES OF WELL-TO-DO GENTLEMEN WHO WANT TO SUPPORT YOU
THAT'S NOT TRUE
WHEN I WAS LITTLE, I WENT TO A PRIVATE TUTORING SCHOOL NEAR MY HOME
PERHAPS THAT WAS A JOKE SINCE I'M MERELY A XIZI*


THIS SCRIPT IS INCREDIBLE
THERE'RE TOO MANY THINGS THAT I WANT TO DO
I WISH I COULD DO MORE FOR THE PROSPERITY OF PEKING OPERA

THIS IS WRITTEN FOR QINGYI
WHEN I WRITE IT, YOUR IMAGE ALWAYS APPEARS IN MY MIND
YOU REALLY THINK SO?
YES I DO
YANG LAO BAN,
THE SCRIPT IS
WRITTEN FOR YOU IS IT ALRIGHT IF I TELL YOU ABOUT THIS?
YOU'RE MY MUSE, AN ACTOR WHO SPARKS MY SENSE OF CREATION
OH ...


I AM DEEPLY HONORED ...
DA SHAO YE

SORRY
SHAO NAINAI, I ...
THAT'S FINE THIS GENTLEMAN CAME TO VISIT RUIHAI. I WILL MAKE THE FAREWELL TO HIM
I WOULD LIKE TO TELL YOU SOMETHING. I'M FED UP WITH PEKING OPERA
WHAT I DISLIKE MOST IS A SENSELESS XIZI!
HUH?

WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE! DO YOU THINK YOU CAN HAVE HIM TO YOURSELF?!
DON'T COME HERE AGAIN!

楊洛仙
葉

BRAVO
BRAVO
BRO-
THER
GOOD WORK
GOOD WORK
WATCH IT! FIND YOUR BUTTER

DA SHAOYE ...
HI
YANG LAOBAN, HOW COME YOU DIDN'T COME AGAIN?
I WAS ALMOST BORED TO DEATH
THAT'S NOT RIGHT
FORGET PEKING OPERA FOR A WHILE. OTHERWISE, YOU CAN'T RELAX
MY WRITING WAS SO SLOW THAT I COULDN'T EVEN FINISH IT
DA SHAO YE!

YANG LAOBAN
NOBODY CAN TAKE AWAY MY LOVE FOR PEKING OPERA!
NO, I DIDN'T MEAN THAT ...
ARE YOU UPSET WITH ME?
WHAT IS IT? DO YOU BLAME ME BECAUSE I SIMPLEMINDEDLY PRESENTED YOU A SCRIPT?
I TRULY DIDN'T MEAN IT
BUT, YOU HAVE TO CONTROL YOURSELF THESE DAYS
I FEEL ...
YOUR GOOD HEALTH IS MORE IMPORTANT TO ME THAN THE COMPLETION OF THE SCRIPT
I FEEL OBLIGATED TO SHAO NAINAI

WHAT DID SHE SAY TO YOU?
NO, NOTHING REALLY
COMPARED TO THOSE POWERFUL PEOPLE, I MAY NOT BE ABLE TO MAKE YOU A SUPER-STAR AS THEY CAN BUT,
IF YOU CAN SHINE BRIGHTER BECAUSE OF MY PLAYS, I WILL BE SO HAPPY
YANG LAOBAN
I WANT TO HELP YOU
SO, DON'T WORRY ABOUT MY HEALTH
YOUR PERFORMANCES ARE THE BEST MEDICINE FOR ME.

IT'S NOT ALLOWED!
THAT'S NOT A ROOM WHERE WOMAN CAN GO IN AND OUT FREELY!

FENG XIA?
RUHAI ...
YOU WERE HERE, JUST AS I SUSPECTED
HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN THAT THE DOCTOR TOLD YOU TO REST WELL?
LET'S GO HOME
SURE-LY LET'S GO
YANG LAOBAN,
YOU ARE NOT COMING WITH US?
RUHAI
DON'T YOU LIKE TO READ THE SCRIPT?

IT'S MY BODY, AND MY BUSINESS! I KNOW WHAT I NEED
DON'T REMIND ME AGAIN
YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND! YOU'RE ALWAYS SO UNREASONABLE
YOU ... WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
DON'T YOU WANT TO TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF?

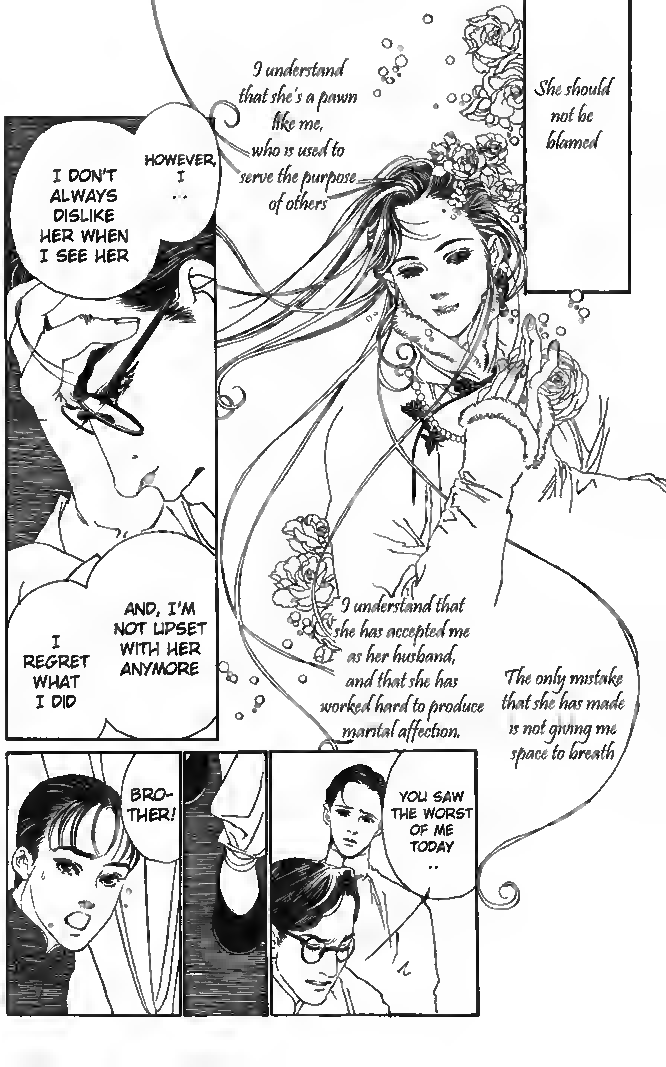
HE'S MERELY A XIZI. HE'S LIKE SCUM!

DA SHAOYE, NO!

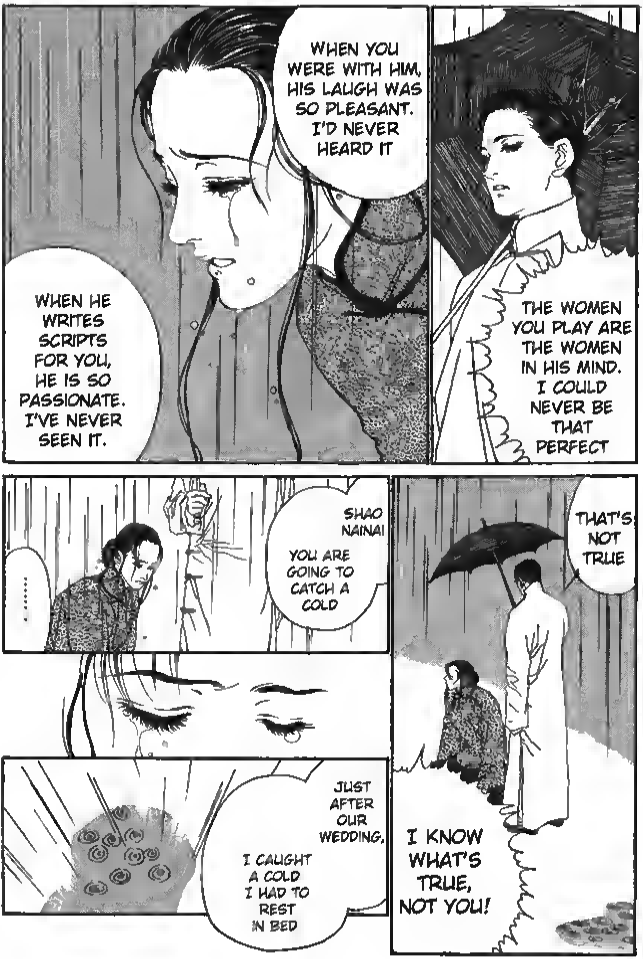
BASH!!
WHERE ARE YOU FROM? HOW CAN I FORGIVE YOU?! YOU'VE RUINED MY FAMILY!
YOU SHAME-LESS XIZI!
SHAO NAI ...
DON'T TOUCH ME!!
STOP !!!

I?
YOU ARE THE ONE WHO RUINED EVERYTHING!
I DON'T UNDER-STAND ANYTHING?
YOU HAD ... MY DREAMS, MY HOPES-
MY YOUTHFUL PASSIONS TOTALLY CRUSHED IT'S ALL BECAUSE OF YOU!
YOU HAVE RUINED MY ENTIRE LIFE!
ONE DAY, YOU, WEARING SOME CRIMSON OUTFIT, SUDDENLY SAT BESIDE ME SINCE THEN, I WAS SHACKLED WITH A FAMILY THAT I HAVE NEVER WANTED

DA SHAOYE ...
I KNOW
IT'S VERY WRONG TO TREAT SHAO NAINAI LIKE THAT
I KNOW ... I KNOW!
I GAVE UP A CHANCE FOR HIGHER EDUCATION I ACCEPTED A MARRIAGE ARRANGED BY YEYE, THEN I GAVE UP MUCH MORE. I SHOULD TAKE THE BLAME FOR ALL OF THIS
BECAUSE THIS IS THE PATH THAT I'VE CHOSEN ...
SAAA
SHAO NAINAI!


She should not be blamed
I understand that she's a pawn like me, who is used to serve the purpose of others
I DON'T ALWAYS DISLIKE HER WHEN I SEE HER
HOWEVER, I ..
I REGRET WHAT I DID
AND, I'M NOT UPSET WITH HER ANYMORE
I understand that she has accepted me as her husband, and that she has worked hard to produce marital affection.
The only mistake that she has made is not giving me space to breath
BRO-THER!
YOU SAW THE WORST OF ME TODAY ..

SHAO NAINAI IS ...
I WISH I KNEW HOW TO BETTER UNDER-STAND HIM
EVER SINCE I MARRIED HIM, HE'S BEEN DISTANT TOWARDS ME ...
SHAO NAINAI
SHAO N...
LET ME TALK!


WHEN YOU WERE WITH HIM, HIS LAUGH WAS SO PLEASANT. I'D NEVER HEARD IT
WHEN HE WRITES SCRIPTS FOR YOU, HE IS SO PASSIONATE. I'VE NEVER SEEN IT.
THE WOMEN YOU PLAY ARE THE WOMEN IN HIS MIND. I COULD NEVER BE THAT PERFECT
SHAO NAINAI
YOU ARE GOING TO CATCH A COLD
.....
THAT'S NOT TRUE
I KNOW WHAT'S TRUE, NOT YOU!
JUST AFTER OUR WEDDING,
I CAUGHT A COLD I HAD TO REST IN BED

Everyone was busy and wished each other a prosperous new year I was alone in my room

I was very lonely and anxious I could not hold back my tears

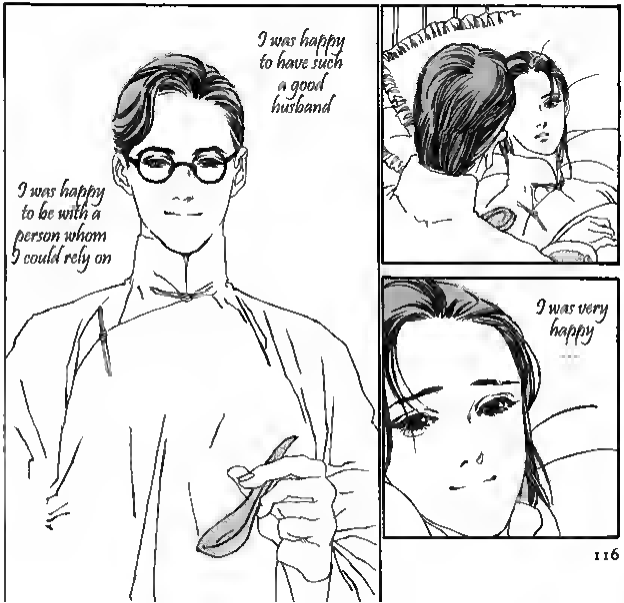
Then he quietly stepped into the room

I could not think about anything else...

It was during the Spring Festival

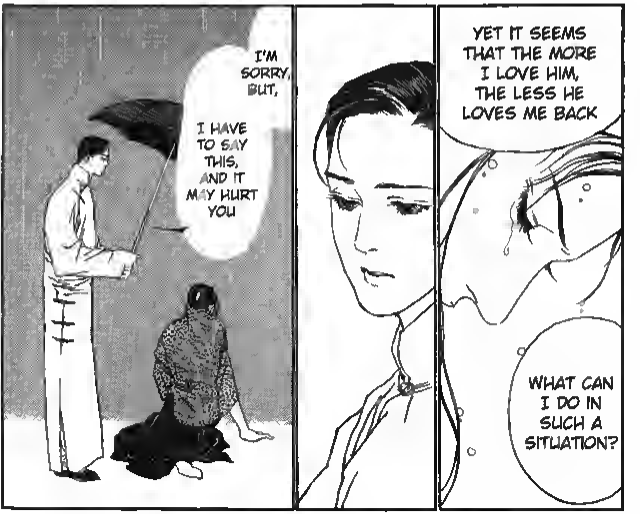
Chinese Lion Dance

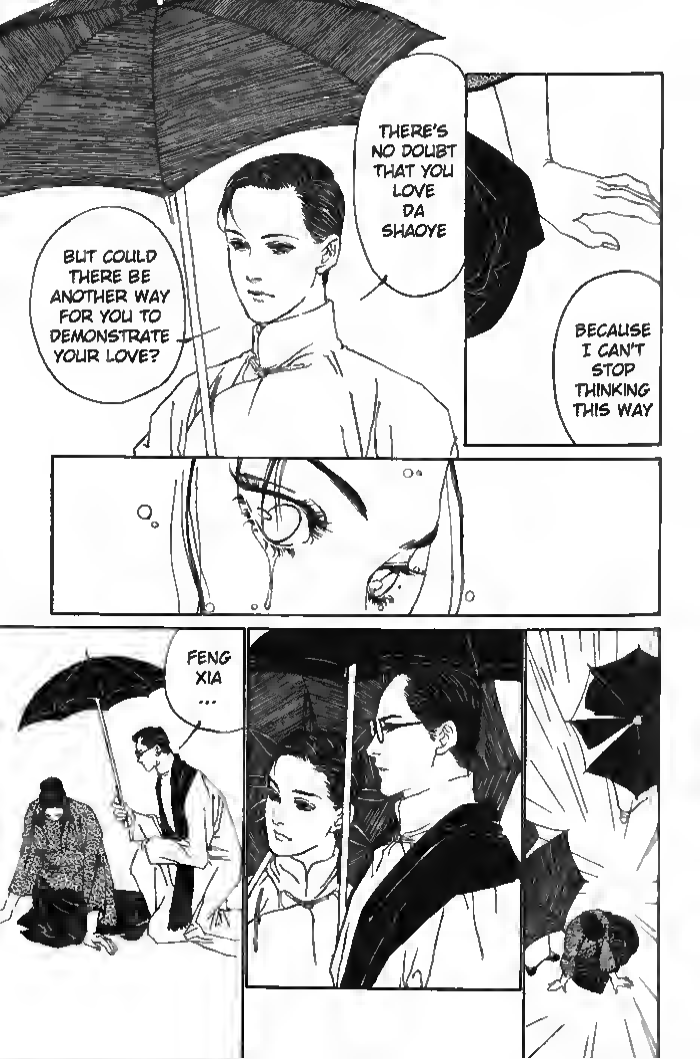
In his hands, a bowl of warm porridge...


I was happy to have such a good husband
I was happy to be with a person whom I could rely on
I was very happy...

THESE DAYS, I CAN OCCASSIONALLY CATCH A GLIMPSE OF HIS HAPPY FACE BUT THE HAPPINESS IS NOT BECAUSE OF ME. IT'S PURELY FOR PEKING OPERA
I ... DIDN'T WANT THIS MARRIAGE EITHER
But in daily life, he was always dispirited
SHAO-NAINAI, DA-SHAOYE IS DOING SOMETHING THAT HE HAS DREAMED ABOUT FOR LONG
TRUE. IT IS DESTROYING HIS HEALTH, AND IT IS NOT RIGHT
IF YOU COULD MAINTAIN THIS KIND OF LIFE YOU SHOULD ASK YOURSELF IF YOU REALLY WANT TO DO
And I became anxious because of it
.....

I LOVE HIM, I REALLY DO!
SHAO NAINAI
YOU HAVE BECOME CRUCIAL TO DA-SHAOYE
PLEASE CONTINUE TO LOVE HIM MORE AND MORE


I'M SORRY, BUT,
I HAVE TO SAY THIS, AND IT MAY HURT YOU
YET IT SEEMS THAT THE MORE I LOVE HIM, THE LESS HE LOVES ME BACK
WHAT CAN I DO IN SUCH A SITUATION?


THERE'S NO DOUBT THAT YOU LOVE DA SHAOYE
BECAUSE I CAN'T STOP THINKING THIS WAY
BUT COULD THERE BE ANOTHER WAY FOR YOU TO DEMONSTRATE YOUR LOVE?
FENG XIA ...

IT WAS MY FAULT
I SHOULD HAVE BEEN MORE SENSITIVE
HOW CAN I BE THE WOMAN WHO ALWAYS STANDS BY YOU?
IS THERE ANYTHING I CAN DO FOR YOU?
REGARDLESS, I AM YOUR WIFE
I WOULD LIKE TO SHARE YOUR PAIN WHEN YOU ARE UNHAPPY, WHEN YOU ARE DEPRESSED

THAT'S ENOUGH
YOU HAVE DONE SO MUCH FOR ME. I HAVE NO RIGHT TO BE UPSET
I HAVE CALMED DOWN
YOU HAVE TO GIVE ME A BIT MORE TIME
COULD YOU WAIT FOR ME?

SINCE I'VE DISCOVERED HOPE, IT SEEMS THAT I CAN NOT HOLD MYSELF BACK ANY LONGER ...
HOW-EVER,
I HAVE WAITED FOR A VERY LONG TIME
FENGXIA ...

SO FAR SO GOOD, EH? I MEAN THAT COUPLE
I THINK SO
BUT, IT'S RAINING HEAVILY
IF IT DOESN'T STOP, THEY WON'T BE ABLE TO LEAVE

IT'S GOING TO BE FINE

WHEN THE TIME COMES, THE RAIN WILL STOP
to be continued

Wallpaper by SHICHAN Join us at FIERY.NET

Flowers in a Mirror the Moon in Water

鏡花水月

きょうかすいげつ

Zhang Huizhu of «Tsaring in Deserted Mountains» played by Yang Luojian Sumeragi Natsuki 1994

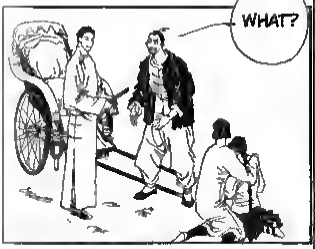
Join us at

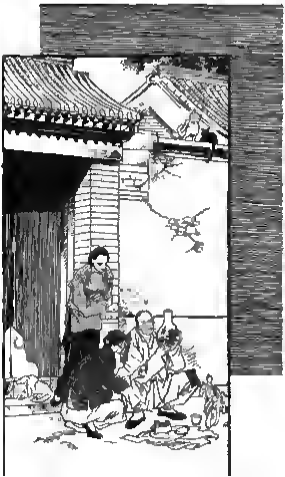
FIRAY.NET

Scanner : Firay
Translator : Firay
Editor : Shichan

IS HE HERE?
古印牌香烟
NOT YET
ALMOST HERE ...
NOW!
WOW
GWAA!

WHAT HEARTLESS COMMENTS!
DO YOU THINK WE WERE HIT ON PURPOSE?
WHAT HAPPENED?
A GIRL SUDDENLY JUMPED IN FRONT OF THE RICKSHAW
YOU'RE MR. LUOXIAN'S FANS
YOU JUST WANT HIS ATTENTION
PHM, NO DOUBT YOU PEOPLE HAVE PROBABLY PLANNED THIS CONSPIRACY FOR A LONG TIME
I KNOW YOUR KIND VERY WELL
YOU THINK I HIT YOU?
FOR YOUR INFORMATION, I MADE A TURN JUST BEFORE YOU HIT MY RICKSHAW


WHAT?



THE POINT IS ... IS ANYONE INJURED?

MISS I'LL CONTINUE ON FOOT. PLEASE TAKE MY RICKSHAW AND GO

THE ZHANG FAMILY IS VERY STRICT
OUR Xiuwen'S MANNER AND DOMESTIC SKILLS HAVE TO MAKE THEM FEEL COMFORTABLE!
Wen!
YES MAMA
I AM HERE
DID YOU GO OUT FOR AN OPERA AGAIN?
SUCH A YOUNG LADY AS YOU SHOULD NOT HAVE GONE TO THEATERS AT ALL!
YOU MUST CONTROL YOURSELF
HEY, CALM DOWN

XIU WEN, YOUR MOTHER IS TOO OLD FASHIONED SHE'S GOT TO CHANGE IT
BUT ONLY FOR THE PURPOSE OF THAT ARRANGED MARRIAGE THEY DIDN'T BOTHER ASKING YOU FOR YOUR OPINION DON'T QUIT SCHOOL FOR THE SAKE OF A SILLY MARRIAGE..
DON'T SAY THAT, Minhong
THIS IS THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA* WE ARE NOT IN A FEUDAL SOCIETY ANYMORE
WE HAVE A RIGHT TO CHOOSE A HUSBAND ACCORDING TO OUR OWN WISH!
SHE LETS ME GO TO THE WOMEN SCHOOL

*The official name of China in 1920's (1911-1949)

*insulting nickname for a performer in Mandarin

IT'S IMPOSSIBLE IN THIS LIVING WORLD
HAVE YOU LOST YOUR MIND?
I HAVEN'T FOUND THAT PERSON YET.
CAN'T BE HIM? HE'S A XIZI*
DON'T LIE
THIS IS JUST MY FANTASY ...
Yang Luoxian is a very popular performer
To me, he is like flowers in a mirror or the moon in water
AS YOU AND I ALL KNOW ...
YANG LUOXIAN
I wish I could always see him ...

WE'D BETTER QUIT FROM THESE SILLY GAMES LIKE TODAY'S!
THOUGH IT SEEMS THAT I CAN STILL HEAR HIS VOICE ...
I'M SATIS-FIED!
ARE YOU SURE?
I'M NOT A CHILD WITH DREAMS ANYMORE. I'VE GOT TO GROW UP FROM TODAY ONWARDS ...

HEY, LISTEN, LISTEN!
DO YOU KNOW WHOM I MET YESTERDAY?
MIN HONG!
YANG LUOXIAN. I BUMPED INTO HIM.
HE WAS A BIT SURPRISE TO SEE ME
HE SMILED AT ME AND TALKED TO ME
Miss
Are you all right? Are you still hurt?

*Qian Men = Zhengyang Men (the Gate of Zhengyang) is on the south side of Tiananmen Square in Beijing
WEN, AREN'T YOU A GROWNUP WHO NO LONGER DREAMS?
HEY MINHONG, WILL YOU GO WITH ME TO THE OPERA THEATER OUTSIDE QIAN MEN* TOMORROW? LUOXIAN IS GOING TO HAVE A MATINEE
HE TALKED TO ME SO TENDERLY!!
HE STILL RECOGNIZES ME!
I WOULD STILL LIKE TO HAVE SOME DREAMS
I WITH DRAW FROM WHAT I SAID
I WISH THAT LUOXIAN COULD SEE ME TODAY, SO I CAN ONCE AGAIN HEAR HIS VOICE
HE IS SPLENDID YOU WON'T SEE A SECOND PERSON AS GREAT AS HIM

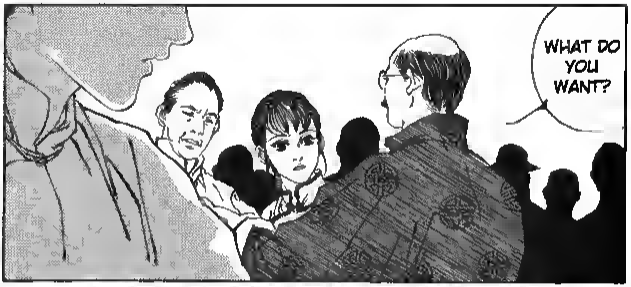
DON'T YOU SAY THE SAME TO THOSE STUPID RECORDS? THEY DON'T EVEN PLAY.

RIGHT, MIN HONG?
WHAT-EVER

HURRY UP, MINHONG

I WONDER WHAT LUOXIAN IS WEARING TODAY
WOW, SO MANY PEOPLE

LUO XIAN !!



"Laoban" – honorific to an artist in Mandarin

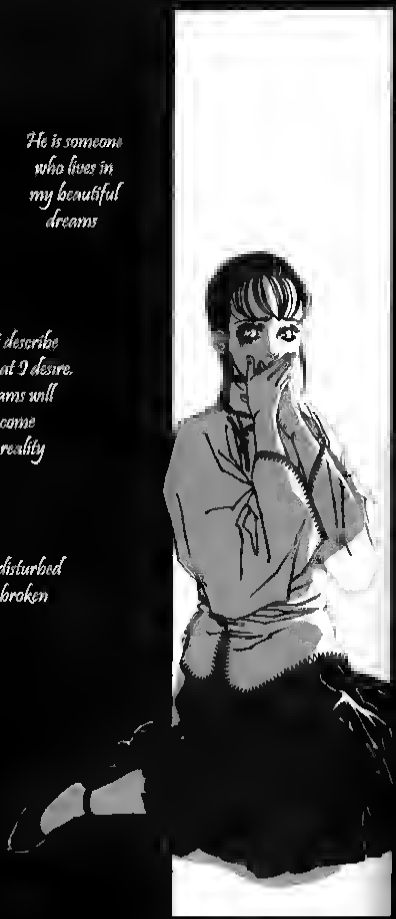
I'M VERY, VERY SORRY ...
YANG LAO BAN!

He is someone who lives in my beautiful dreams

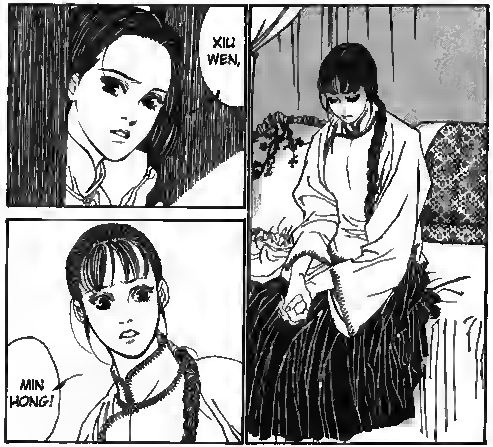
I can not describe what it is that I desire. My dreams will never come close to reality

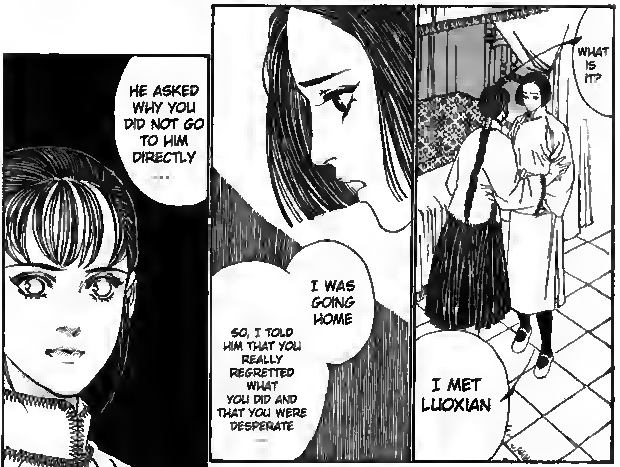
If it could, the placid water would be disturbed and the mirror would be broken

My moon and my followers would be gone—



I WAS SO STUPID! I WISH HE WILL GET BETTER SOON AND RETURN TO THE STAGE
I ALMOST DESTROYED A PERFORMER'S FACE.
HE WILL NEVER FORGIVE ME ...
ALRIGHT XILIWEN,
I'LL TRY MY BEST TO HELP YOU
THE POLE ONLY SCRATCHED HIM
BUT, LUOXIAN DID NOT SAY A WORD TO ME HE JUST LEFT!
MINHONG,
WHAT SHOULD I DO?
PEOPLE AROUND HIM TOOK HIM AWAY IMMEDIATELY ...


XIU WEN,
MIN HONG!


WHAT IS IT?
I MET LUOXIAN
I WAS GOING HOME
SO, I TOLD HIM THAT YOU REALLY REGRETTED WHAT YOU DID AND THAT YOU WERE DESPERATE
HE ASKED WHY YOU DID NOT GO TO HIM DIRECTLY

YANG LAOBAN, YOU HAVE A VISITOR

IT'S FINE
DON'T DO THAT
PLEASE FORGIVE ME.
I WAS ...
THIS LITTLE SCRATCH DOESN'T HURT.
BUT, I MISSED WHAT YOU WERE GOING TO SAY TO ME
I'M VERY ANXIOUS TO HEAR IT
I MUST APOLOGIZE FOR MY RUDENESS ...

DON'T CRY. YOU SHOULD BE HAPPY BECAUSE YOU ARE GETTING MARRIED.
SORRY SORRY ..
I HEARD THE NEWS FROM YOUR FRIEND
WHEN YOU ARE MARRIED, YOU WILL NOT BE AS FREE AS YOU ARE NOW. BUT, I HOPE YOU WILL NOT GIVE UP YOUR ENTHUSIASM FOR MY PERFORMANCES, WILL YOU?
I AM ... SCARED
I'M GOING TO BE MARRIED LIKE THIS I'M GOING TO LOSE THE MOST IMPORTANT MEANING IN MY LIFE

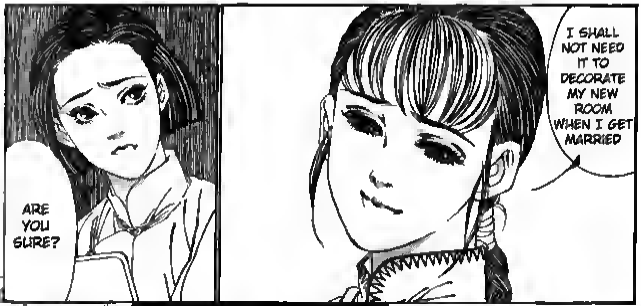
I ...
I ...
SSHHH ...
I KNOW WHAT I DESIRE EVEN TODAY. I STILL LIVE IN MY DREAMS
I don't know anyone there.
I have to be a good wife for my husband.
I must raise children.
I will become very practical.
I will only live in reality.

DON'T SAY A WORD ANYMORE
LET'S COMPLETE THE DRAMA THAT YOU DREAM OF
WHEN THE PLAY ENDS, YOU WILL RETURN TO REALITY
HOWEVER, MISS
HAVEN'T YOUR PARENTS CHOSEN A PERFECT SUITOR FOR YOU BECAUSE YOU'RE VERY PRECIOUS TO THEM?
EVERYTHING WILL BE FINE
BE HAPPY ON THE STAGE OF REALITY.

So the drama ends

And the performer leaves

Dreams, unceasingly, will live in memory



囍

He has given me his bless for my marriage

I should try ... to be happy with my life

鏡花水月※完

to be continued